UNITED NATIONS

CEDAW

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Distr.
GENERAL

CEDAW/C/USR/4
15 November 1994
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES UNDER ARTICLE 18 OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

Fourth periodic reports of States parties

RUSSIAN FEDERATION*

* For the initial report submitted by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, see CEDAW/C.5/Add.12/ for its consideration by the Committee, see CEDAW/C/SR.14 and 19, and Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 45 (A/39/45), paras. 90-122; for the second periodic report submitted by the Government of the USSR, see CEDAW/13/Add.4 and Add.4/Amend.1; for its consideration by the Committee, see CEDAW/C/SR.145 and 147, and Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/44/38), paras. 337-374; for the third periodic report submitted by the Government of the USSR, see CEDAW/C/USR/3.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was ratified by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR on 19 December 1980 with reservations relating to article 29 (1) of the Convention.

2. By a decree of 10 February 1989 the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR accepted the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice and on 19 April 1989 informed the Secretary-General of the United Nations that its reservations had been withdrawn.

3. The Russian Federation*, as the successor State to the USSR, assumed the obligations arising from the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

4. This fourth periodic report contains information on the situation of women in Russia. Although as a part of the USSR the RSFSR was the largest republic in terms of the extent of its territory and the size of its population, this is in fact the first report on the implementation of the Convention in the new independent State of the Russian Federation.

5. The third periodic report of the USSR, which was circulated as CEDAW/C/USR/3 on 4 September 1991 and has not yet been examined by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, contained information on the situation of women in all 15 of its constituent republics.

6. In submitting this report, the Government of the Russian Federation cannot assume responsibility for the information contained in the previous report, which was prepared by the Government of the former USSR, nor provide explanations of the information contained in it relating to the other republics of the former USSR which have become independent.

7. This report was prepared on the basis of the "General Guidelines Regarding the Form and Contents of Reports Received from States Parties under Article 18 of the Convention" and the "Guidelines for the preparation of Second and Subsequent Periodic Reports" set out in document CEDAW/C/7. The report contains information for the period from 1990 to 1993 and makes use of data received from the ministries and departments of the Russian Federation responsible for decisions relating to the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, the bodies responsible for implementing them and from public organizations dealing with these problems. Part I of the report meets the requirements of the "guidelines for the initial part of the reports of States

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* The change of name to the Russian Federation (Russia) was made by the Act of 25 December 1991 of the RSFSR "Concerning the Change of Name of the Russian Soviet Federal Socialist Republic."

parties" set out in document HRI/1991/1. Part II of the report contains basic general information on the national machinery, structures and institutions established to give effect to the provisions of the Convention, provides a statistical overview of some aspects of the economic and social situation, and an analysis of the progress made with respect to women's rights and the further steps needed to improve their situation. Part III provides specific information with regard to the individual articles of the Convention, and the legislative, administrative and other measures taken in the Russian Federation to implement the Convention. Part IV contains a list of the legislative measures concerning women referred to in the report.

I. BASIC DATA AND CONTEXT

A. Country and population

8. Since the submission of the third periodic report a fundamental change has taken place in Russia. The existence of the State - the USSR - of which the RSFSR was a constituent republic came to an end, the single-party Communist system and the structures of State power associated with it were destroyed, and a new independent State, the Russian Federation, was established.

9. Territory: The Russian Federation occupies a territory of 17,075.4 thousand sq. kms. It is made up of 21 republics, 6 regions, 49 areas, 1 autonomous area, 10 autonomous districts, 1,066 cities (13 with more than one million inhabitants, 2 of which are federal cities), 2,070 towns and 1,867 administrative districts.

10. Population: As of 1 January 1994 there were 148.4 million inhabitants, 73.1 per cent urban and 26.9 per cent rural. Population density ranges from 328.4 inhabitants per sq. km. in Moscow and its environs to 0.03 inhabitants per sq. km. in the Evenky Autonomous Area.

11. Age structure of the population: children below the age of 18 make up 26.2 per cent of the population of the Russian Federation; persons of working age (16-59 for men, 16-54 for women) make up 56.6 per cent and retired persons 20.1 per cent.

12. National composition of the population: According to the 1989 census, more than 120 nationalities and peoples live in Russia. There are 120 million Russians (82 per cent of the total population). Of the other nationalities numbering more than 1 million people, there are 5.5 million Tatars (3.8 per cent of the total), 4.4 million Ukrainians (3 per cent), 1.8 million Chuvash (1.2 per cent), 1.3 million Bashkirs (0.9 per cent), 1.2 million Belorussians (0.8 per cent) and 1.1 million Mordovians (0.7 per cent).

13. Educational level of the population: According to 1989 figures, there were 91.1 million people in the 15 and over age group with (complete or incomplete) secondary and higher educations, or 80.6 per cent of the total. The proportion of specialists with secondary and higher training amounted to 30.5 per cent (34.5 million people); those with secondary general educations amounted to 27.4 per cent (31 million people). Of the 23.7 million people with incomplete

secondary educations, 4.7 million were in the 15-17 age group, of whom an overwhelming majority were continuing their studies; on the whole those with incomplete secondary educations fell within the older age groups.

14. An index of gross national product was introduced into the economic accounts of the Russian Federation in 1989. Between 1990 and 1993 it tended to fall: in 1991 it fell to 87 per cent by comparison with the previous year, to 81 per cent in 1992 and to 88 per cent in 1993.

15. The monetary income of the Russian Federation's population as a share of the personal income of employed persons was eleven times greater in 1993 than in 1992. Taking into account the changes in the consumer price index, the increase in monetary income was 10 per cent.

B. General principles of political structure

16. The political structure of the State is organized in accordance with the Constitution of the Russian Federation adopted on 12 December 1993.

17. The Russian Federation is a democratic, federal state ruled by law and republican in form.

18. State power in the Russian Federation is exercised on the basis of the separation of the legislative, executive and judicial branches.

19. The President of the Russian Federation is the head of State.

20. The Federal Assembly, which is the parliament of the Russian Federation, is the representative and legislative organ of the Russian Federation. It consists of two chambers: the Federation Council and the State Duma.

21. The Government of the Russian Federation exercises executive power in the Russian Federation.

22. Justice in the Russian Federation is administered only by courts of law. Judicial power is exercised through constitutional, civil administrative and criminal proceedings.

23. Local self-government in the Russian Federation is exercised through independent decisions by the citizens on local questions concerning the management, use and disposition of municipal property.

II. BASIC GENERAL INFORMATION

24. From the mid-1980s changes took place in Russia which had a vital influence on the political, social and economic situation in the country. The elimination of censorship, the expansion of civil rights and freedoms, the adoption of new indices and the publication of previously inaccessible statistical data bared the problems of Russian society and made possible a more objective evaluation of the processes taking place in the country. Such facts as the employment of

women in unfavourable working conditions; their lower levels of remuneration; the lower level of their qualifications as compared with men; the insignificant representation of women in legislative and executive organs, particularly at higher levels; their high level of employment in household work; the decline in the nation's health and longevity indices and the increase in maternal and child mortality became public knowledge.

25. The process of creating a market economy, the denationalization and privatization of property, increased the social vulnerability of a part of the population, above all women, whose ability to exercise their equality of opportunity was limited. All this creates difficulties in achieving the goals and tasks of the Convention, and determined efforts are needed to alleviate and overcome the negative effects of the processes taking place in the country.

A. Statistical overview

26. Demographic situation. On 1 January 1994 there were 78.5 million women in the territory of the Russian Federation, amounting to 53 per cent of the total population. 34 million women were economically active (48 per cent of the total active population).

27. Russia's population structure has been distorted as a result of war and other social upheavals. At present the process of natural reproduction is also taking effect.

28. By United Nations criteria Russia's population was already aging at the end of the 1960s. The proportion of the population above the age of 65 in 1993 reached 11.5 per cent.

29. In 1993 there were 1,130 women for every 1,000 men (1,137 in urban areas and 1,113 in rural areas).

30. The complex demographic situation is determined above all by long-term demographic trends, particularly a decline in the birth rate, which by the second half of the 1960s had already fallen below the level of population maintenance in Russia.

31. There were 1.4 million births in 1993, a decline of 610,000 as compared with 1990. The overall birth rate declined from 13.4 per thousand in 1990 to 9.4 per thousand.

32. The development of marriage and family relations is characterized by a steady increase in out-of-wedlock births. In 1991 the proportion of children born outside registered marriages amounted to 16 per cent of all births, in 1992 17.1 per cent and in 1993 18.2 per cent (in 1990 the figure was 14.6 per cent). The rate of out-of-wedlock births among women below the age of 20 is increasing.

33. The decline in the birth rate is due to a number of factors. The number of women in the peak child-bearing age group (20-29) declined by 1.8 million, or 16 per cent in 1993 as compared with 1988 (a demographic "echo" of the 1941-1945 war years), although it is in that age group that over two/thirds of all annual

births occur. The manifold changes in economic and social life in the reform period and economic and political instability also affect the birth rate. The decline in living standards and the uncertainty of young families about the future produce a significant drop in the birth rate of second and third children. According to a special selective study of 14,000 young families (both spouses under the age of 30) carried out by the State Statistical Committee of the Russian Federation at the end of 1992, 67 per cent of those families had one child, 13 per cent two children and only 0.8 per cent three or more children.

34. In 1990 the average number of children born to women in the 15-49 age group was 55.3 per thousand, in 1991 it was 49.9, in 1992 43.9; i.e., it declined by 20.6 per cent from 1990 to 1992.

35. From November 1991, for the first time since the Second World War, the death rate in Russia began to exceed that of births. In 1992 the number of deaths exceeded that of births by almost 220,000 and in 1993 by 750,000. A population decrease was registered in 69 territories, inhabited by 93 per cent of the population.

36. The Overall death rate rose from 11.2 per thousand inhabitants in 1990 to 14.5 in 1993. The number of deaths from practically all causes rose appreciably. There was a higher growth in the rate of unnatural causes of death (accident, poisoning, especially alcohol poisoning, trauma, suicide and murder). Between 1991 and 1993 average longevity declined almost to the level of the early 1980s, or 65.1 years. The death rate for men was significantly higher than that of women, thus causing a gap between the life expectancy of men and women. In 1993 life expectancy for women was 13 years longer than that of men, and reached 71.9 years.

37. One of the most important problems is that of infant mortality, which registered an increase after 1990. The death rate for children below the age of one was 17.4 per thousand in 1990, 17.8 in 1991, 18.0 in 1992 and 19.9 in 1993.

38. Maternal mortality indices also increased. In 1990 the rate of death in childbirth was 47.4 per 100 thousand and in 1993 51.6 per 100 thousand.

39. A significant number of children in Russia live in single parent families, as a rule with their mothers. According to the 1989 census there were 3.3 million such families (8.2 per cent of the total number). In 1993 there were 6 million and the proportion had risen to 15 per cent. More than half a million children are left with a single parent annually.

40. Average family size. According to the census data, it was 3.2 persons in 1989 (urban 3.2 and rural 3.3).

41. Migration. As a result of the break-up of the USSR, the processes connected with the migration of Russian and Russian-speaking populations beyond the borders of the Russian Federation became an urgent concern. Twenty-eight million Russian speakers, including 25 million Russians, live in the newly independent States of the former Soviet Union.

42. The growth of social tensions in many of the States of the former Soviet Union and the limitation of the economic, social, cultural and political rights of ethnic Russians brought with it an outflow to Russia. On 1 April 1994, 499.6 thousand refugees and forced resettlers had been registered. Women constituted 53.3 per cent of them and children below the age of 16, 28.6 per cent. About 90 per cent of the refugees and forced resettlers were ethnic Russians.

43. In the course of the 1990s negative qualitative changes have taken place in practically every area of material life of the population.

44. The decline in real income of the population is accompanies by an increase in the proportion of services for which payment is required and a corresponding decline in governmental allocations for those services, a sharp increase in the fees charged for them and a consequent decrease in their availability to broad sectors of the population.

45. Minimum income required to avoid poverty was calculated in January 1992 as 635 rubles a month for a single Russian woman, 718 rubles for a working woman and 438 rubles for a retired woman, with average monthly wages calculated at 1,438 rubles and average cash income at 883 rubles. In January 1993 the corresponding indicators were 5,547 rubles, 6,263 rubles and 380 rubles respectively, with average monthly wages at 15,341 rubles and average cash income at 10,024 rubles. In January 14 the figures were 47,189 rubles, 53,080 rubles and 33,269 rubles respectively, with average monthly wages at 134,161 rubles and average cash income at 95,221 rubles.

46. According to a survey of households and the health of the population carried out in 1992 by the State Statistical Committee of the Russian Federation, the income of 28 per cent of households fell below the required minimum (poverty level). Households with children under the age of 6 were in the most difficult situation (38 per cent of these households falling below the poverty line), followed by households in which one or more family member was unemployed or incapacitated (31 per cent).

47. Of the total number of households with children below the age of 16, 32.8 per cent fell below the poverty line, including households with one child (27 per cent), with two children (37.6 per cent) and with three or more children (63.2 per cent). Of single-parent families with children below the age of 6, 31 per cent had income below the poverty level.

48. The real monetary income of the population tended to decline in 1991-1992 and in 1993 rose only 9 per cent by comparison with 1992.

49. Decline in quality of population's diet: With a general decline in caloric intake of 4 per cent in 1992, there was a decline of 10 per cent in the consumption of animal products. In 1993 overall caloric intake rose by 5 per cent, but the consumption of animal products remained at the 1992 level.

50. In every region of Russia there was a significant increase in the number of families with a minimum consumption of animal products. One-third of the families consumed less than 2 kg. of meat per month per family member. The most

unfortunate consequences of the dietary deficiency were in the worsening health of young women - future mothers, pregnant women and nursing mothers.

51. There has been a fall in the physical volume of consumer services amounting to 37 per cent in 1991, 54 per cent in 1992 and 40 per cent in 1993. The decline affected all forms of services. The worsening of retail services led to an increase in the time expended obtaining goods of 20 to 25 per cent.

52. Health. The deterioration in the material and technical basis of health establishments, the acute hortage of modern diagnostic and curative equipment and medical supplies and the often low level of qualification of medical personnel, together with other causes, led to a deterioration in the health of the population.

53. With the complete lack of effective means of contraception, the most effective means of birth control has become abortion. In 1993 the number of officially registered abortions alone reached 3.3 million - more than twice the number of births. There were an average of 94 abortions for every thousand women of child-bearing age (the number of abortions per 100 births increased from 206 in 1990 to 252 in 1993). The proportion of women using modern contraceptive methods was 18.9 per cent in 1990 and 22.4 per cent in 1992.

54. Between 1990 and 1993 there was a steady rise in morbidity among children below the age of 14 (based on data for 100,000 children of that age), including practically all categories of illness. Circulatory illnesses increased by 1.8 times, bone-muscle disorders by 1.6 times, disorders of the blood and blood-producing organs by 1.5 times, of the genito-urinary and endocrinological system 1.5 times. Neonatal morbidity grew by 1.3 times, including malignancies by 6 per cent, and active tuberculosis by 40 per cent. The number of children with birth anomalies increased 1.3 times. In 1990 every seventh infant was born ill or fell ill, in 1991 every sixth infant, in 1992 every fifth infant and in 1993 every fourth infant.

55. An unfavourable epidemiological situation is arising in the Russian Federation with respect to venereal and other illnesses, including AIDS. On 1 January 1994 there were 264 women with the HIV virus in Russia, including 111 girls.

56. Inadequate public health financing has led to a reduction in guaranteed State medical aid to women and children. Difficulties are consequently being encountered in implementing the maternal and child health programmes of the republics, developing a network of child health institutions, and so on.

57. State expenditures for the maintenance and development of preschool and other children's institutions and on schools are being curtailed. In 1992 the number of preschool institutions was reduced by 6 per cent and the number of new preschool institutions established decreased by 73 per cent (as compared with 1990). In 1993 the number of preschool children's institutions fell by 4.5 per cent. In 1990 66.4 per cent of preschool age children attended preschool institutions and in 1993 57 per cent. At the beginning of 1994 about 370,000 children were awaiting their turn to enter preschool institutions. One-third of the preschool buildings need capital repairs or complete replacement.

Thirty per cent of the buildings lack running water, toilets and central heating.

58. Inadequate material and technical maintenance of schools: More than 30 per cent of them need capital repairs, and 6.3 per cent are in complete disrepair. Only 39 per cent are fully equipped with services and utilities. Because of the lack of space, in the 1993/1994 school year 24.7 per cent of the pupils attended schools in a second shift and 0.3 per cent in a third shift. The number attending a second shift increased in the 1993/1994 school year by 1.8 per cent by comparison with the 1992/1993 school year.

59. The vocational training system faces great difficulties. Much of the equipment in basic and intermediate vocational training institutions does not meet contemporary needs. They have only 30 to 40 per cent of the technical equipment they need, and in some technological branches only 20 per cent. In the last two years about 100 basic and intermediate vocational training institutions have been closed.

60. Unemployment: The existence of unemployment has been officially recognized in Russia since 1991. In 1991-1992, the number of unemployed citizens increased ninefold. At the end of 1993 there were 835,500 registered unemployed, 65.9 per cent of whom received unemployment benefits. About one-third of the unemployed had been dismissed from enterprises, establishments and organizations as a result of closure, reorganization or reductions in staff. Women constituted 65 per cent of the unemployed, of whom 43.2 per cent had higher or intermediate specialized training.

B. Legal principles ensuring the equality of women in the Russian Federation

61. In the period since the submission of the third periodic report of the USSR (1991), fundamental changes have taken place in the political, economic, social and governmental order which required corresponding changes in their legislative bases.

62. The principle of equality of rights for men and women was laid down in the Constitution of the Russian Federation adopted on 12 December 1993.

63. Article 19 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation provides that: "The State shall guarantee the equality of rights and liberties regardless of sex ... or any other circumstance. "Men and women shall have equal rights and liberties and equal opportunities to pursue them."

64. The legislation of the Russian Federation contains no direct contradictions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. However, the existing system for preventing discrimination against women remains insufficiently effective. No general governmental policy for the overall resolution of all problems relating to discrimination against women has been formulated. The traditional patriarchal view of the place of women in society is changing slowly. No machinery for legal enforcement has been established which would ensure the practical implementation of all governmental

measures for the advancement of women and supervision and accountability for the implementation of the decisions taken.

C. National machinery: structures, bodies, institutions responsible for ensuring observance of the principle of equality of men and women in practice

65. At present the process of creating national machinery to ensure equal rights and equal opportunities and eliminate discrimination against women is under way in Russia. Some elements of the machinery have already been established and are functioning.

66. A Commission for Women, the Family and Demography has been established in the office of the President of the Russian Federation (Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of 15 November 1993). The Commission is a collective advisory body for the formulation and coordination of Government policy for achieving equal rights and opportunities for men and women, improving the status of women, supporting the family and solving demographic problems in the Russian Federation.

67. A Committee on Women, Family and Youth has been established in the State Duma (the lower house of the Federal Assembly).

68. A Department for Women, Family and Children's Questions exists within the Ministry of Social Defence of the Russian Federation and has responsibility for coordinating overall State policy with regard to family relations, achieving social equality for women and ensuring the survival and healthy development of children.

69. The Department works in cooperation with the central bodies of the federal executive, the executive bodies of the constituent republics of the Russian Federation, the regions, areas and autonomous entities, the cities of Moscow and Saint Petersburg and public associations and organizations.

70. The ministries and departments dealing with social affairs have sections dealing with women's problems.

71. A National Preparatory Council for the Fourth World Conference on the status of women, "Action for equality, development and peace" has been established (Order of the Council of Ministers - Government of the Russian Federation of 19 June 1993).

72. Pursuant to the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of 4 March 1993, the Government of the Russian Federation is working out an overall federal programme on "Russian women" which will consider such problems as the status of women in the labour market, ensuring the right of women to health protection and the organization of social services for women.

73. The results of the programme are expected to be:

Alleviation of the crisis situation with respect to women's occupations and improvement of their situation in the labour market, leading to the more effective use of women's labour resources;

Establishment of the conditions for ensuring in practice the right of women to safety in the workplace;

Arresting negative health trends for both women and the population in general;

The creation of an overall system for helping citizens cope with difficult life situations.

74. It is recommended that the executive bodies of the constituents of the Russian Federation prepare similar regional programmes.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

Article 2

75. The principle of the equality of rights of men and women is established in the Constitution of the Russian Federation and in other legislative texts: the Marriage and Family Code (MFC) of the RSFSR*, the Criminal Code (CC) of the RSFSR, the Code of Criminal Procedure (CCP) of the RSFSR, the Code of Civil Procedure (CCiP) of the RSFSR, the Code of Administrative Offences (CAO) of the RSFSR, the Labour Code (LC) of the Russian Federation, the Act of the Russian Federation on "Employment in the Russian Federation" and others.

76. The Constitution of the Russian Federation contains an extensive list of areas in which discrimination is prohibited.

77. Under article 17, basic rights and freedoms in conformity with the commonly recognized principles and norms of international law are recognized and guaranteed in the Russian Federation. The basic rights and liberties of the human being shall be inalienable and shall belong to everyone from birth.

78. Under article 19, the State shall guarantee equality of rights and liberties regardless of sex. Men and women shall have equal rights and freedoms and equal opportunities to pursue them.

79. Article 45 guarantees State protection for human rights and freedoms in the Russian Federation. Everyone shall have the right to defend his or her rights and freedoms by any means not prohibited by law.

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* Here and elsewhere in the text the abbreviation "RSFSR" will be used to refer to laws of the Russian Federation adopted prior to 25 December 1991.

80. Under article 46 everyone shall be guaranteed protection of his or her rights and freedoms in a court of law. The decisions and actions (or failure to act) of State organs, organs of local self-government, public associations and officials may be appealed against in a court of law. In accordance with the international agreements entered into by the Russian Federation, everyone shall have the right to appeal to interstate organs concerned with the protection of human rights and freedoms when all the means of legal protection available within the State have been exhausted.

81. Under article 47, no one may be denied the right to have his or her case reviewed by the court and the judge under whose jurisdiction the case falls under the law.

82. Article 48 guarantees everyone the right to qualified legal counsel.

83. A number of more specific rights are codified in separate provisions of the Constitution of the Russian Federation.

84. In particular, as regards the elimination of discrimination against women, the Criminal Code of the RSFSR establishes corresponding rules of criminal law:

Article 117 provides for the crime of rape, that is, sexual intercourse involving physical violence, threat or the exploitation of a state of helplessness on the part of the victim;

Article 118 establishes criminal responsibility in the case of a person who forces into sexual relations or the satisfaction of sexual passions in any other form a person materially dependent on or subordinate to him;

Article 134 establishes criminal responsibility for preventing a woman from taking part in State, public or cultural activities;

Article 139 provides criminal penalties for refusing to give employment to or dismissing a woman on the grounds of pregnancy or refusing to employ or dismissing a nursing mother.

85. A special chapter of the Criminal Code of the RSFSR - the eighteenth - is devoted to crimes constituting survivals of local custom, namely:

Article 232 establishes criminal responsibility for the payment or acceptance of a bride-price;

Article 233 provides criminal penalties for forcing a woman to marry or preventing her from marrying;

Article 234 provides criminal penalties for concluding an agreement according to local custom concerning the marriage of a person below the legal age of marriage;

Article 235 establishes criminal responsibility for bigamy or plural marriage, i.e., cohabitation with two or more women in a common household.

86. In Russia legal defence of a woman's rights is conducted on the same basis as a man's and is provided through the competent national courts and other State institutions.

87. Under article 14 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the RSFSR the administration of criminal justice is carried out on the basis of equality before the law and the court regardless of sex or other circumstances.

88. Under article 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure of the RSFSR everyone (whether man or woman) has the right to appeal to a court in the manner prescribed by law for defence against the violation or contesting of a right or the protection of a lawful interest.

89. Under article 5 of the Code of Civil Procedure of the RSFSR the defence of a right can be conducted only by a court and on the basis of the quality before the law and the court of everyone regardless of sex or other circumstances.

90. Under the Act on "Procedure for complaint to a court concerning the unlawful action of the administration and officials of a State organ infringing his or her rights" of the Russian Federation, every citizen (whether man or woman) has the right to complain to a court if he considers that an unlawful act (decision) by a State organ, organ of local self-government, establishment, enterprise or its associates, or public organization or its officials has violated his rights and freedoms.

91. Under the Russian Federation Act "On the Public Prosecutor's Office of the Russian Federation", unlawful acts (including infringements of the rights of women) may be complained of to the Public Prosecutor's Office. The Public Prosecutor also has the right to appeal to a court to protect the rights or lawful interests of a citizen.

92. In February 1993 the Acts of the Russian Federation "On Refugees" and "On Forced Resettlers" were adopted, defining the basic rights of refugees and forced resettlers and the obligations of the State bodies responsible for assisting them. Rules were prepared establishing the legal basis for the implementation of the laws on the basis of the equality of rights of resettlers, regardless of sex.

Article 3

93. In order to ensure the full development and advancement of women in the political field, article 32 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation includes a clause giving the citizens of the Russian Federation (both men and women) the right to participate in the administration of the State both directly and through their representatives and to elect and be elected to organs of State government and local self-government.

94. In the social field, article 30 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation proclaims the right of everyone (men and women) to association, including the right to create trade unions to protect one's interests. The

freedom of action of public associations is guaranteed. No one may be coerced into joining any association or into membership thereof.

95. The right of every citizen (man or woman) to association is also affirmed in the Act of the USSR now in force in Russia "On Public Associations", which in fact provides directly for the possibility of establishing women's organizations (article 1).

96. In the economic field: Articles 34 to 36 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation affirm the right of every citizen (man or woman) to the free use of his or her abilities and property for entrepreneurial or any other economic activity not prohibited by law. The right to private property shall be protected by law. Everyone shall have the right to own property and to possess, use and manage it either individually or jointly with other persons. No one may be arbitrarily deprived of his or her property except by decision of a court of law. Property may be forcibly alienated for State needs only on condition of prior and equivalent compensation. The right of inheritance is guaranteed. Citizens and their associations shall have the right to own land. The possession, use and management of land and other natural resources shall be freely exercised by their owners provided this does not damage the environment or infringe on the rights and interests of other persons.

97. The Civil Code of the RSFSR and the Act of the RSFSR "On Property in the RSFSR" also provide for equality of rights for every citizen (man or woman) with respect to the administration of civil law and the right to property.

98. In the cultural field: Article 44 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation guarantees everyone the right to freedom of literary, artistic, scientific and other types of creative activity and tuition. Intellectual property shall be protected by law. Everyone shall have the right to participate in cultural life, the use of cultural institutions and access to cultural treasures. Everyone is obligated to be concerned for the preservation of the historic and cultural heritage and the protection of landmarks of history and culture.

99. Under the Basic Legislation of the Russian Federation concerning culture, cultural activity (the preservation, creation, dissemination and appreciation of cultural values, i.e., moral and aesthetic ideals, standards models of conduct, languages, dialects and accents, national traditions and customs, historical place-names, folklore, artistic arts and crafts, cultural and artistic productions, the methods and results of scientific research into cultural activities, buildings, structures, objects and technologies having historical cultural significance, territories and sites unique in cultural history) is the inalienable right of every citizen, regardless of sex or other circumstances.

Article 4

100. In order to establish factual equality between men and women, a Decree of the President of the Russian Federation was issued "On State policy priorities with respect to women" (4 March 1993) which recognizes the implementation of an overall State policy for the advancement of women as among the priorities of

State economic and social policy. A number of tasks are given high priority, including:

- ensuring the conditions for real participation by women in the activities of State bodies and public organizations;

- the establishment of organizations and economic and legal guarantees for the realization of women's rights in the work place;

- gradual elimination of the historically determined lag in the remuneration of women's work;

- ensuring the right of women to safety at work and safeguarding their lives and health as mothers;

- the inclusion in the legislation of the Russian Federation of social guarantees for working women, regardless of the legal organization of the enterprises, establishments and organizations in which they work;

- the organization and development of social services enabling parents to combine fulfilment of their parental obligations with work and public activity.

101. The Decrees of the President of the Russian Federation of 5 June and 5 November 1992 established special measures for the social defence of pregnant women and women with children below the age of 3 connected with the elimination of enterprises, establishments and organizations.

102. Where a pregnant woman or woman with children below the age of 3 is unable to find suitable work or other employment as a result of the elimination of an enterprise, establishment or organization, the period from the date of her dismissal to the date on which her children reach the age of 3 is to be regarded as a period of uninterrupted work for the purpose of the allocation of State insurance grants.

103. In the case of elimination of an enterprise, establishment or organization involving an involuntary change of employment for a pregnant woman, a woman with children below the age of 3, a single mother with children below the age of 14 or disabled children below the age of 16, these women become its assignees, i.e., the individuals or legal entities to whom the property and financial or other resources of the eliminated enterprise, establishment or organization is transmitted. In the absence of assignees the State bodies dealing with employment are responsible for providing assistance in finding suitable employment or change of employment for such employees in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation. If it is impossible for such women to find suitable work or a change of employment, the period from the day of their dismissal to the date on which their children reach the age of 3 is included in the period of employment for the purpose of the granting of allowances under the State social insurance system.

104. The development of Russian legislation is directed towards the goals of achieving actual equality between men and women, ensuring equality of

opportunity and the gradual abolition of special measures. Thus until 1990 only the mother had the right to care for young children (under the age of 1). A resolution of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR of 10 April 1990 for the first time granted the right of leave to care for children (under the age of 3) to the mother or, at the discretion of the family, the father, grandmother, grandfather or other relative in fact exercising care of the children. This provision has now been strengthened by article 167 of the Labour Code of the Russian Federation.

Article 5

105. The legal standards established in article 11 of the Criminal Code of the RSFSR are intended to achieve the elimination of prejudices and customary practices based on the idea of the inferiority of women or the superiority of men over women (see part III, paragraph 2 of this report).

106. Informational activities are conducted by the relevant State bodies to overcome stereotyped ideas on the place and role of women in society and to direct attention to the problems of women in the mass media.

107. Under the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation "On supplementary measures for the legal and economic defence of the periodic press and State book publishing enterprises" of 20 January 1992, women's publications are included in the group given priority in receiving State subventions. From 1992 on about 20 such publications received subventions.

108. Between 1990 and 1993, 31 books and pamphlets in editions totalling 247,550 copies were issued in Russia on women's problems, maternal and child defence, and the struggle against pornography and the cult of violence and cruelty.

109. At present more than 100 newspapers and journals devoted to women are issued in Russia in Russian and other languages, whereas 10 years ago there were less than 10 such publications.

110. Questions of the social defence of women are systematically reflected in the television and radio programmes of Russian State television and radio, in special programmes and series. The purpose of these programmes is to draw public attention to women's problems and to inform women of their rights.

111. In recent years the programmes "I-- A woman", "Kozirnaya Dama", "Shpilka" and others have appeared on television, and the radio station "Hope", which specializes in clarifying problems encountered by women, has been founded.

112. Article 38 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation provides that motherhood, childhood and the family shall be under State protection. Care for children and their upbringing are the equal right and duty of the parents.

113. Under article 52 of the Marriage and Family Code of the RSFSR, parents are required to bring up their children, and to care for their physical development and education. The rights of parents may not be exercised against the interests of the child.

114. Article 54 of the Marriage and Family Code establishes the equality of rights and responsibilities of parents in relation to their children; all questions relating to the child's upbringing are decided by both parents by agreement. In the absence of agreement disputes are decided by the guardianship bodies with the participation of the parents.

115. Article 51 of the Marriage and Family Code provides that the spouses shall have equal rights in the naming of the children; the surname of the child shall be that of the parents. If the parents have different surnames, the surname of the child shall be that of either the mother or the father by agreement of the parents and in the absence of agreement it shall be decided by the guardianship bodies. If a parent with whom a child continues to live after the termination of a marriage or the acknowledgement of its disability wishes to confer his or her surname on the child, the guardianship body, acting in the interests of the child, shall decide on the change of surname of a minor child.

116. If after the dissolution of a marriage or for any other reason the parents do not continue to live together, with which parent a minor child is to live is a matter for agreement between them. In the absence of agreement between the parents the dispute is settled by the court, on the basis of the child's interests (article 55 MFC RSFSR).

117. A parent living apart from children has the right to see them and is obligated to participate in their upbringing. The parent with whom the children live may not hinder the other parent from seeing the children and participating in their upbringing (article 56 MFC RSFSR).

118. Under article 164 of the Code of Administrative Offences of the RSFSR, malicious failure by parents or their surrogates to fulfil their responsibilities for the upbringing and education of minor children or the consumption by minor children of narcotic substances without a physician's prescription entail the administrative responsibility of the parents or their surrogates.

119. The legislation does not deprive single women of the right to adopt or assume custody of a child; moreover, it gives preference to the woman in deciding the question of responsibility for the upbringing of minor children.

Article 6

120. Under article 22 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation everyone has the right to freedom and personal inviolability.

121. The Russian Federation has assumed the obligations of the United Nations Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others. Under article 226 of the Criminal Code of the RSFSR keeping a brothel and procuring for pecuniary gain entail criminal liability.

122. The law does not establish criminal liability for prostitution, but the corruption of minors, keeping of brothels and procuring for pecuniary gain are

prosecuted under articles 210 and 226 of the Criminal Code of the RSFSR. Women engaged in prostitution may be subject to administrative liability under article 164.2 of the Administrative Offences Code of the RSFSR and fined.

123. As there is no department dealing with prostitution in Russia and the corruption of young and minor children is exposed only when a criminal offence has been committed, reliable statistics on the number of women engaged in prostitution do not exist, and the State is unable to monitor the phenomenon or estimate its size.

124. The infection of another person with venereal disease or the HIV virus is subject to criminal liability (articles 115 and 115.2 of the Criminal Code of the RSFSR). The continues refusal of treatment for venereal disease after notification by the health authorities is subject to criminal liability (article 115.1 of the CC of the RSFSR).

125. In June 1993 the Parliament of the Russian Federation adopted an overall federal plan for 1993-1995 to prevent the spread of AIDS in the Russian Federation. This programme includes working out specific measures for protecting women against infection by the HIV virus and AIDS.

126. Under article 37 of the Act of the Russian Federation "On mass information media" radio and television broadcasts of a specialized erotic nature are permissible only between the hours of 11 p.m. and 4 a.m. The retail sale of mass media products specializing in reports and materials with erotic content is permitted only in special wrappers and in premises designated for such sale. However, because of the absence of supervision by the State and health authorities these regulations are frequently violated.

127. In 1990 15,000 cases of rape were reported and in 1993 14,400.

128. Reporting of this crime is deteriorating. In 1993 it amounted to 81.5 per cent and 11.6 per cent more of these crimes remained unreported than in 1992.

129. There are many cases of humiliation and torture of women by men. In 1993 14.500 women died as a result of such crimes and 56,400 suffered mutilation or other bodily injury.

130. One of the forms of violence against women is illegal abortion. Abortion is legally permitted, but in 1992 almost 11,000 criminal abortions were reported among women who had visited gynaecological clinics as a result of complications resulting from them. Every fourth woman dying as a result of complications of pregnancy, birth or the postpartum period dies as a result of criminal abortion.

131. Under the Criminal Code of the RSFSR extreme punishment - the death penalty - is not applied to women.

132. One of the means of protection of women subjected to violence is the creation of networks of institutions to which they can turn for help, psychological support, medical consultation and so on. Such institutions are now being established both within the framework of the State social defence

system, with the participation of federal and local authorities, and by non-governmental organizations. Such centres have been established in the cities of Vorkuta, Izhevsk, Kursk, Moscow, Perm, Samara, Saint Petersburg, Saratov, Tyumen, Ulan-Ude and others.

Article 7

132. Under article 32 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, all citizens of the Russian Federation have the right to participate in the administration of the affairs of the State both directly and through their representatives. Citizens of the Russian Federation have the right to elect and be elected to State governing bodies and organs of local self-government and to take part in referendums. They have equal access to State service.

134. Moreover, the voting rights of all citizens are specified in the Act of the RSFSR "On the election of the President of the Russian Federation", the Act of the Russian Federation "On Referendums", the Decrees of the President of the Russian Federation "On the election of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation" (11 October 1993), "On Publication of the Amended Text of the Statute for Election of the Representatives of the State Duma in 1993 and the Amendments and Additions to the Statute of Federal Decision-Making Bodies in the Transitional Period" (1 October 1993) and the "Statute for the Election of Representatives to the State Duma" (1 February 1993).

135. The above-mentioned legislation contains no discriminatory rules or limitations on the participation of women in the political life of the country.

136. The increase in the number of women in representative bodies was the result of their increased political self-consciousness and the growth of the associations "Union of Russian Women", "Union of Russian Navy Women" and the association of Russian businesswomen in the "Women of Russia" political movement.

137. In the 1993 elections to the State Duma, the "Women of Russia" political movement won 21 seats. In all, 69 women were elected to the Federal Assembly, or 11.4 per cent of the total number of deputies. Formerly there were a total of 56 women among the elected Russian representatives (5.3 per cent of the total number).

138. Women constitute more than half the staff of the organs of executive power at the federal level. Their highest representation is on the staff of the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation (77 per cent), the Ministry of Social Defence, the Federation Committee for the Chemical and Petrochemical Industries (68 per cent), and the Ministry of Health and the Medical Industry of the Russian Federation (66 per cent). In the State Committee for Sanitary and Epidemiological Inspection of the Russian Federation, 93 per cent of the staff members are women.

139. Women constitute more than 50 per cent of the presiding judges of the district and city courts, 95 per cent of notaries and 40 per cent of the lawyers of the Russian Federation.

140. However, the representation of women in executive posts is much smaller.

141. Among the heads of federal ministries and departments there are two women (the Minister of Social Defence of the Russian Federation, a member of the Government of the Russian Federation, and the Director of the Russian Federal Migration Service). Among the presiding judges of the superior courts of the constituents of the Russian Federation, 16 per cent are women. Among senior executives in industry in 1992 11 per cent were women, in agriculture 8 per cent, in communications 10 per cent, in construction 1 per cent and in transport 0.7 per cent.

142. Because of their inadequate representation in the senior posts of executive and managerial bodies, women are unable to exercise any influence whatever in decision-making processes or actively participate in the implementation of decisions. This impedes the resolution of many social and economic problems relating to the advancement of women in society.

143. Under article 30 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation everyone has the right to association, including the right to establish trade unions to protect their interests. The freedom of action of public associations is guaranteed.

144. Women's social action is carried out through their participation in the activities of public organizations and mass associations.

145. There are about 300 registered women's organizations in the Russian Federation, of which 5 have international status, 2 federal status and 14 republic status. There are councils and committees of soldiers' mothers, unions of large families, associations and unions of women with common professional and artistic interests and women's sections in peace, environmental and other movements. Clubs for businesswomen and new commercial organizations are being formed.

Article 8

146. The legislation of the Russian Federation contains no discriminatory provisions respecting the right of women to represent the Government of the Russian Federation and the State at the international level.

147. Russian legislation and the rules regulating recruitment for diplomatic and other work on the central staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (MFA) and establishments abroad as well as promotion and rotation within the service are based on the principle of the equality of the demands made on all officers irrespective of sex.

148. However, the number of Russian women working in international organizations, occupied in diplomatic work and having diplomatic status is insignificant.

149. The proportion of women in the central staff and foreign establishments of the Russian MFA was 32.5 per cent in 1993, and there were two women ambassadors of the Russian Federation (in 1992 there were three). 3.5 per cent of the women had diplomatic status, and there was one women member of the board of the Russian MFA.

150. In practice a number of posts involving the maintenance of security (diplomatic couriers, special security couriers, chauffeurs, etc.) are occupied by men. As a rule, women are employed in clerical posts.

151. There are about 50 Russian women in the United Nations Secretariat in New York and about the same number in the secretariats of the international organizations in Geneva (primarily in technical posts).

152. One of the measures intended to increase the proportion of women holding responsible posts in the Foreign Ministry is the application to them of less rigid conditions for access to advanced training in the diplomatic academy; under normal conditions they should be assigned to posts or ranks no lower than that of second secretary, beginning with women employees occupying posts as attachés and third secretaries.

153. Russia has broadened the representation of women in the pool of specialists available for work in international organizations and has also arranged for the training of women in the international economic faculty of the All-Russian Foreign Trade Academy, where, before 1990, only men were trained for work in international organizations.

Article 9

154. Under article 6 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, citizenship of the Russian Federation is acquired and terminated in accordance with federal law and is the same and equal irrespective of the grounds on which it has been acquired. A citizen may not be deprived of citizenship or of the right to change it.

155. Under article 62 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation:

A citizen of the Russian Federation may have the citizenship of a foreign State (dual citizenship) in conformity with the federal law or international agreement of the Russian Federation;

Possession of the citizenship of a foreign State by a citizen of the Russian Federation shall not diminish his or her rights and freedoms or exempt him or her from the obligations deriving from Russian citizenship unless otherwise provided by the federal law or international agreement of the Russian Federation;

Foreign citizens and stateless persons shall enjoy in the Russian Federation the rights of its citizens and be subject to the same obligations with the exception of cases stipulated by the federal law or international agreement of the Russian Federation.

156. The equal rights of men and women with respect to the acquisition, change or retention of citizenship are affirmed in articles 2, 12 and 13 of the Act of the Russian Federation "On Citizenship of the RSFSR" and in the Act of the RSFSR 'On Citizenship of the RSFSR'. The Act guarantees the retention of citizenship by a woman married to a foreign national.

157. Under article 6 of the Act of the RSFSR "On citizenship of the RSFSR" the conclusion or dissolution of the marriage of a citizen of the Russian Federation with a person not possessing citizenship of the Russian Federation shall not alter his or her citizenship.

158. A change of citizenship by one of the spouses shall not affect the citizenship of the other spouse.

159. Under article 25 of the Act of the RSFSR "On citizenship of the RSFSR" the citizenship of children under the age of 14 is that of their parents, and for children from 14 to 18 years of age may change with their agreement. The citizenship of children is not diminished by a change in the citizenship of parents deprived of parental rights. A change in the citizenship of children does not require the agreement of parents deprived of parental rights.

160. Under article 26 of the Act of the RSFSR "On citizenship of the RSFSR" a change in the citizenship of both parents results in a corresponding change in the citizenship of a minor child.

161. On the acquisition of Russian citizenship by one of the parents a child may, on the application of the parent acquiring citizenship and with the written consent of the other parent, acquire Russian citizenship (article 27).

162. On the loss of Russian citizenship by one of the parents, a child shall retain Russian citizenship. On the application of the parent losing citizenship and with the written consent of the parent retaining Russian citizenship, the child shall lose Russian citizenship, provided that he or she acquires citizenship of another country (article 28).

Article 10

163. Under article 43 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation:

Everyone has the right to education;

The accessibility and gratuity of pre-school, general and secondary education and vocational training in public and municipal educational institutions and in enterprises is guaranteed;

Everyone has the right to receive, free of charge and on a competitive basis, higher education in a State or municipal educational institution or an enterprise;

Basic general education is compulsory. Parents or their surrogates shall ensure that their children receive basic general education;

The Russian Federation shall establish federal State educational standards and support various forms of education and self-education.

164. Article 5 of the Act of the Russian Federation "On education" guarantees access to education regardless of race, nationality, language, sex, age, condition of health, social or vocational situation, property, social origin, place of residence, religious status, belief or party affiliation. A citizen of the Russian Federation has the right to receive free general and, on a competitive basis, professional education in State and municipal educational institutions meeting State educational standards.

165. According to 1989 data, 766 women out of every thousand above the age of 15 had received secondary and higher (complete or incomplete) education. For urban women, the number was 823 and for rural women 603. 97 did not have even elementary education (as a rule these were older women).

166. The proportion of women in higher educational establishments in the 1993/1994 school year amounted to 52 per cent. In secondary specialized institutions the proportion was 59 per cent. In the 1993/1994 school year, the proportion of girls to boys enrolled in technical vocational colleges was 36.9 per cent.

167. In the educational institutions of the Russian Federation women, as a rule, receive their education together with men. They follow the same courses, use the same textbooks and equipment and are taught by the same instructors using the same teaching materials, methods and technical teaching aids.

168. A series of temporary measures has been taken limiting the access of women to a number of occupations. This is because the training of working cadres in the educational institutions for vocational training is carried out in accordance with the lists of vocations meeting the State standards for vocational training of the Russian Federation. Access by young women to some vocations is restricted by the list of industries, trades and work involving difficult and unhealthy conditions in which the employment of women is prohibited.

169. In the educational institutions for vocational training special advantages are given to women with young children: free class attendance, individual schedules, and so on.

170. In spite of the high level of general education a majority of women are engaged in work not requiring a high level of qualification. Among highly qualified workers there are four times fewer women than men.

171. Although they have equal access to advanced qualification and training, working women are not always able to take advantage of it because of their greater burdens in family and daily life.

172. Equal opportunity for active participation by citizens in sports and physical activities is affirmed in the basic legislation of the Russian Federation on physical culture and sports. Article 3 of that legislation provides that citizens of the Russian Federation have the right to engage in

physical culture and sports (including professional sports), belong to health and physical culture and sports organizations and participate in the leadership of physical culture and sports movements. In order to ensure these rights, the State finances physical culture and sports activities in accordance with established programmes and provides for the legal defence of citizens in the field of physical culture and sports.

Article 11

173. The Russian Federation has acceded to ILO Convention No. 122 concerning employment policy, the goal of which is the adoption by States of a policy of cooperation for "full, productive and freely chosen employment."

174. In recent years fundamental changes have taken place in the approaches taken by the Russian Federation to the problems of employment, including the employment of women.

175. Under article 37 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation:

Work is free. Everyone has the right to make free use of his or her abilities for work and to choose a type of activity and occupation;

Forced labour is prohibited;

Everyone has the right to work in conditions meeting the requirements of safety and hygiene, to remuneration for work without any discrimination whatsoever and not below the statutory federal minimum wage, and the right to security against unemployment.

176. In 1993 34 million women were employed in productive work, or about 50 per cent of the total number of employed persons.

177. The occupations employing the highest proportions of women were public education (80 per cent), health and social services (84 per cent), trade and food retailing (82 per cent) and State insurance and lending bodies 81 per cent).

178. The methods of evaluating the difficulty of the work of persons employed in health protection, education, culture, science and other categories are too inadequate to assess the specific nature of such work, which leads to their undervaluation and introduces elements of discrimination. In those occupations in which women are employed by preference remuneration is more than a third lower than the national average. However, as a result of the measures adopted to increase the remuneration of such workers, the disparity between the remuneration of their work and that of industrial workers decreased in the first half of 1993 as compared with the same period in 1992: in health services and public education it fell from 1.9-1.8 to 1.3 times; in culture, art, science and scientific services, where the lowest remuneration is in the non-productive spheres, the disparity decreased from 2.1 to 1.6 times.

179. Article 16 of the Labour Code of the Russian Federation prohibits the arbitrary refusal to employ anyone. Any direct or indirect limitation of the right to employment or direct or indirect preferential treatment in hiring on the basis of sex or other circumstances unrelated to the capacities of the worker is prohibited.

180. In fact, however, violations of the legislation establishing equality in hiring take place. About a third of the directors of enterprises involving various forms of ownership indicate that in hiring production workers they give preference to men (investigation conducted by the Public Prosecutor's Office of the Russian Federation in 1992).

181. Under the special legislation in force for the protection of the working conditions and health of women the use of women for heavy labour or work in harmful working conditions, or for underground work with the exception of non-physical work or work in sanitary or consumer services is prohibited (article 160 of the Labour Code of the Russian Federation).

182. Nevertheless, about 3 million women work in industry in unfavourable working conditions. There are violations of the legislation on the rights and advantages of working women. Thus, women are given overtime work and assigned work in unhealthy conditions. Out of 40 enterprises investigated by the Public Prosecutor's Office of the Russian Federation, violations of the legislation with respect to pregnant women, who were assigned to night work or illegally dismissed, were found in one out of six.

183. A resolution of the Council of Ministers-Government of the Russian Federation of 6 February 1993 establishes the maximum weight of loads that may be lifted or transferred in the course of other work (twice an hour), which may not exceed 10 kg. Loads constantly lifted and transferred in the course of a shift may not exceed 7 kg. The total weight of loads shifted in the course of an hour of work may not exceed 1,750 kg. from the working surface or 875 from the floor. The Resolution also provides for the inclusion in the agreed pay scales and collective agreements of a clause prohibiting the dismissal of women because of the introduction of new work norms or the mechanization of their work or because they require retraining or requalification.

184. Under the Act of the Russian Federation "On Employment in the Russian Federation", State policy is to be directed towards ensuring the equality of opportunity of all citizens, irrespective of sex, in implementing the right to work, free choice and social defence in the field of employment. The Act provides additional job guarantees for particular categories of citizens (including women caring for pre-school age or disabled children and parents of large families), those requiring social defence and experiencing difficulties in finding work, by means of establishing additional workplaces and organizing special training programmes.

185. At the end of 1993 the number of women registered as unemployed reached 567,400, which amounted to 67.9 per cent of the total number of unemployed. Of the unemployed women 52 per cent have children below the age of 16.

186. The predominance of women among the unemployed is because of the greater reduction of jobs in the "women's branches of the economy, the reduction of office staffs, in which women predominate, and the reduced competitiveness of women as a consequence of the interruptions of work (because of pregnancy, childbirth or caring for children) characteristic of employed women.

187. The predominance of women among the unemployed is also connected with the fact that in previous years there was an overemployment of women in organized production (in practice up to 90 per cent of all women of working age were employed).

188. The length of unemployment is greater for women than for men. In 1993 it took an average of 5 months for women to find work, as compared with 4 months for men.

189. Of unemployed women about 40 per cent are below the age of 30 and 7.8 per cent are just under retirement age, while 43.2 per cent have higher or secondary specialized training.

190. Unemployment benefits are as a rule significantly lower than the minimum living standard, which is particularly difficult for women bringing up children alone.

191. As part of the federal programme of employment assistance, a set of measures is planned for the assistance of women experiencing difficulties in finding work. State policy in this field is directed towards the creation of conditions for increasing the competitiveness of women on the labour market through training programmes enabling women to adapt themselves more easily to market conditions.

192. Under the Act of the Russian Federation "On Employment in the Russian Federation" local administrative bodies are given the right to establish enterprises with a minimum number of special posts for the employment of citizens in special need of social defence or experiencing difficulties in finding work.

193. Russian labour legislation contains specific provisions guaranteeing women's reproductive functions.

194. Part 1, article 170 of the Labour Code prohibits the refusal to employ a woman or the reduction of her wages for reasons related to her pregnancy or the fact that she has children. In the case of refusal to employ a pregnant woman, a woman with children below the age of 3 or a single mother with a child below the age of 14 (16 in the case of a disabled child), the management is required to inform her in writing of the reason for refusal.

195. Refusal of employment or dismissal by reason or pregnancy and refusal of employment or dismissal of a nursing mother are liable to criminal prosecution (article 139 of the CC RSFSR).

196. Dismissal, at the instance of management, of a pregnant woman or a woman with children below the age of 3 or a single mother with children below the age

of 14 (16 in the case of a disabled child) is prohibited except in the case of total liquidation of the enterprise, establishment or organization, when dismissal is permitted because of unavoidable redeployment. Mandatory redeployment of such women may also be carried out by management in the case of dismissal on completion of a fixed labour agreement (contract). During the period of redeployment they retain their average wage, but for a period of no more than three months from the date of expiry of their labour agreement (contract) (Part 2, article 170 LC RF).

197. Special protection is given to pregnant women and women with children of nursing age by the labour legislation. Under article 1614 of the LC RF, pregnant women, on medical certification, are assigned reduced output norms or shorter working hours, or are transferred for the period of pregnancy to other, less onerous work at the same level of pay.

198. Article 160 of the LCFR lists the forms of work which are prohibited or restricted for women.

199. In order to ensure the right of women to more favourable conditions for the fulfilment of their maternal functions, women with children below the age of 3 may not be employed on night work, overtime or free days or sent on missions (article 162 LC RF).

200. Women who lose their employment and wages (income) in connection with the liquidation and reorganization of an enterprise, establishment or organization are entitled during the twelve months following the date of official acknowledgement of their unemployment to payment of an allowance from the social defence authorities for a period of pregnancy and birth leave at the minimum wage level (paragraph 3 of the Decision of the President of the Russian Federation of 2 July 1992 "On measures for the social support of citizens losing their employment and wages (income) and acknowledged to be unemployed in accordance with established procedure").

201. Under article 167 of the Labour Code, women who so wish may receive partly paid leave to care for a child under the age of 18 months, with an allowance paid from the State social insurance office, and may take additional leave without pay for the care of a child under the age of 3. Such leave may also be taken in whole or in part by the father of a child or any other relative actually caring for the child.

202. Women with children under the age of 18 months are entitled, in addition to regular rest and meal breaks, to nursing breaks during the work period which are included in working time and paid for at the average rate of pay (article 169 LC RF).

203. Under article 39 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation everyone is guaranteed social security in old age, in case of disease, invalidity or loss of breadwinner and to bring up children.

204. Under article 10 of the Act of the RSFSR "On State pensions in the RSFSR" women are entitled to an old age pension at the stage of 55 if they have worked

for at least 20 years (men at the age of 60 if they have worked at least 25 years).

205. In determining old age pension benefits in connection with special working conditions (article 12 of the above-mentioned Act) women are as a rule allocated less than men because of the requirements relating to age and length of employment.

206. Women are given a number of advantages in terms of their pensions. Thus, women with 5 or more children who have cared for them to the age of 8 and mothers of disabled children who have cared for them up to that age are entitled to an old age pension at the age of 50 if they have worked for at least 15 years (article 11 of the Act of the RSFSR "On State pensions in the RSFSR"). Moreover, their period of employment is considered to include leave to care for disabled children; the time spent by non-working mothers to care for children below the age of 3 including 70 days before their birth, but not exceeding a total of 9 years; the time spent by women married to officers, ensigns, warrant officers and servicemen serving in places where they were unable to work at their specialties because of inability to find employment, but not exceeding a total of 10 years (article 92 of the Act of the RSFSR "On State pensions in the RSFSR."

207. The Russian Federation Act "On employment in the Russian Federation" provides for granting an unemployed citizen, on the proposal of the employment services, the right to early retirement, but not earlier than two years before the time fixed by law.

208. Article 22 of the Basic legislation of the Russian Federation on protection of the health of citizens provides for the payment of a quarantine allowance for care of a child below the age of 7 to one of the parents or another member of the family for the entire period of quarantine, ambulatory treatment or joint residence with the child in a hospital, and an allowance for caring for a sick child above the age of 7 for a period of no more than 15 days if it is medically determined that no more time is required.

209. The social defence system includes not only assistance to the needy (in the form of allowances and compensatory payments) but strengthening the active participation of citizens and helping them to solve their own problems independently. The Government of the Russian Federation is making efforts to ensure conditions for the development of family, small and medium business and self-employment.

210. A great deal of work is being done in the development of small, medium and family businesses by women's non-governmental organizations in cooperation with the employment services and the Ministry of Social Defence of the Russian Federation. A set of special teaching programmes has been prepared for teaching the fundamentals of entrepreneurial activity and establishing an independent business.

211. One of the ways in which an effort is being made to promote the entrepreneurial activity of women in Russia is the organization of interregional fairs in which they can learn about the possibility of using various forms of

women's work (work at home, establishing independent businesses). The goal of the fairs is to strengthen the entrepreneurial spirit among women, the exchange of experience in solving difficult problems with regard to women's employment and increasing the competitiveness of women on the labour market and their legal awareness.

Article 12

212. Under article 41 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation:

Everyone has the right to health care and medical assistance. Medical assistance shall be made available to citizens by State and municipal health care institutions free of charge through the use of the corresponding budgetary and insurance payments and other revenues;

The Russian Federation shall finance federal health care and health-building programmes, take measures to develop State, municipal and private health care systems, encourage activities contributing to the strengthening of human health, the development of physical culture and sports and ecological, sanitary and epidemiological welfare;

Concealment by officials of facts and circumstances posing hazards to human life and health shall entail liability in conformity with federal law.

213. Under article 42 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation everyone has the right to a favourable environment, reliable information about its condition and compensation for the damage caused to his or her health or property by violations of environmental legislation.

214. Under article 17 of the Basic legislation of the Russian Federation on protection of the health of citizens, every citizen has an inalienable right to health care, irrespective of sex, race, nationality, language, social origin or other circumstances.

215. The basic legislation gives great attention to prevention. Various legal standards and means of control are provided for regulating preventive activities and creating a legal basis for the definition and demarcation of the powers of the State bodies at various levels in this field.

216. In 1993 the State health care system included 37.3 thousand gynaecologists (4.7 for every 1,000 women) and 72.7 thousand paediatricians (22.0 per every 10 thousand children below the age of 14). There were 109.7 thousand beds in health centres for pregnant women and women in labour (30.2 per 10 thousand women of age 15-49), 114.5 thousand gynaecological beds (14.5 per ten thousand women), 279.4 thousand beds for children (85.6 for every 10 thousand children below the age of 14). All these indicators without exception deteriorated by comparison with 1992.

217. The Government of the Russian Federation has taken additional measures to safeguard the rights of women, the family and mothers.

218. All questions of providing medical assistance in connection with pregnancy, birth and the post-natal period, the preventive observation of adolescent girls below the age of 18, periodic medical examination, pre- and post-natal home visits, all forms of contraception, the early interruption of pregnancy and the medical and social supervision of other stages of pregnancy are included in the basic programmes of medical insurance and guaranteed by the State.

219. Since 1 April 1992 the length of pregnancy and birth leave for women has been increased to 70 calendar days before birth and 70 (86 in the case of birth complications and 110 in the case of multiple births) calendar days after birth. Pregnancy and birth leave is granted in its entirety irrespective of the actual number of elapsed days before delivery (article 1 of the Act of the Russian Federation "On additional maternal and child protection measures", article 165 LC RF).

220. On medical certification, pregnant women are transferred to other less onerous work at their previous average rate of pay. Hygienic recommendations for the rational redeployment of pregnant women have been worked out for 67 branches of industrial and agricultural production.

221. Measures have been taken to expand prenatal diagnosis and the mass screening of newborn babies for hereditary pathologies. As a result, practically all pregnant women received supersonic examination in 1992 (as compared with 63.2 per cent in 1990).

222. Under article 23 of the Basic legislation of the Russian Federation on health care, pregnant women, nursing mothers and children below the age of 3 are guaranteed adequate nourishment, including, where needed, the provision, on medical certification of food products to them at special nutrition centres and stores in accordance with the procedures established by the Government of the Russian Federation and the Governments of the Russian Federation's constituent republics.

223. The Basic legislation of the Russian Federation on health care gives women the right to decide questions of maternity independently. Special intervention (medical sterilization) for the purpose of depriving people of their reproductive capacities or as a method of contraception may be carried out only on written application by a person above the age of 35 or with at least two children, and under medical supervision and with the consent of the person, irrespective of age and number of children.

224. Every adult woman of child-bearing age has the right to artificial insemination and embryo implantation. Article 35 of the above-mentioned basic legislation establishes the right of women to information on the procedures of artificial insemination and embryo implantation, the medical and legal aspects of their consequences, the results of medical and genetic research and the external characteristics and nationality of the donor.

225. In order to ensure timely medical intervention, pregnant women are entitled to a one-time allowance of 50 per cent of their minimum wage payment (in addition to the pregnancy and birth allowance) for early clinical examination

(in the first 12 weeks) in a maternity clinic (article 2 of the Russian Federation Act "On additional maternal and child care measures".

226. During the 1990-1993 period work was begun to ensure access by the population to means of contraception and the training of medical personnel for family planning. All the work of training doctors and increasing their qualifications is supported by the family planning units. Copper intrauterine contraceptive devices are now being manufactured in Russia.

227. The coverage of women of childbearing age by modern contraceptive means amounted to 18.9 per cent in 1990, 20.4 per cent in 1991 and 22.4 per cent in 1992. In the near future it is expected that as a result of the dissemination of information and the increased production of contraceptives the number of women of childbearing age regularly using desirable methods of contraception will double.

228. In December 1992 the Russian non-governmental association "Family Planning", established 25 family and reproductive planning centres. A federal "family planning" programme was worked out for 1993-1995.

229. A federal "Safe Maternity" programme has been worked out as a part of the overall solution of the problems of maternal and child care.

230. Medical first aid is a medical service provided essentially without charge. It includes treatment of the most common diseases but also of trauma, poisoning and other emergency conditions; sanitation, hygiene and anti-epidemic measures, medical prevention of the most serious illnesses and sanitary and hygienic information.

231. The scope of medical first aid services is established by local administrations in accordance with the territorial programmes of compulsory medical insurance (article 38 of the Basic legislation of the Russian Federation on health care).

232. In spite of the measures adopted, the basic indicators of the health of women and children in Russia continue to deteriorate. By comparison with 1991, the rate of illness increased for almost all groups of illnesses. Almost every other woman coming to term underwent serious illness, including late toxicoses, anaemia and disorders of the circulatory and genito-urinary system.

233. The rate of illness in children is increasing. In the pre-school age group 15 to 20 per cent already have chronic illnesses. At the end of their schooling 40 per cent of students are limited in their choice of profession by the state of their health. Special studies show that among school-age children no more than 10 to 14 per cent are really healthy. Among sick children the predominant illnesses are those of the lungs, the digestive system and the nervous system.

234. The reduction in State allocations for health care and the extension of paid services make it difficult for a significant part of the population to receive the highly qualified assistance they need.

235. Satisfaction of the demand for medicines in health care is falling: in 1990 it was 75 per cent, in 1991, 69 per cent and in 1993, 65 per cent.

236. Of the 760 most vitally needed and important pharmaceutical drugs 300 are imported from abroad.

Article 13

237. Under article 38 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, motherhood, childhood and the family are under State protection.

238. All families with children receive allowances and compensatory payments are made to families with foster children which may go not only to the mother but to other relatives.

239. Under article 240 of the Labour Code women are paid an allowance for pregnancy and birth. Under the Act of the Russian Federation "On additional measures for mother and child care" women visiting maternity clinics in the early stages of pregnancy are paid a one-time allowance of five times their minimum pay (Decision of the President of the Russian Federation of 20 April 1993).

240. The system of State support for families and children in 1991-1993 was rather cumbersome and included the following payments:

a monthly allowance for the care of children below the age of 18 months;

a monthly allowance for children above the age of 18 months and below the age of 6;

a monthly allowance for the children of single mothers;

a monthly allowance for the children of servicemen serving for a fixed period;

a monthly allowance for children living with guardians;

a monthly allowance for children whose parents evade the payment of support;

a monthly compensatory payment for children not receiving allowances or pensions below the age of 16;

a quarterly compensatory payment to families with minor children in connection with the increase in the prices of goods for children;

a yearly special payment for the purchase of clothing;

a monthly compensatory payment for children's food for children below the age of 3.

241. In order to bring order into the present system of social allowances and compensatory payments, a Decision of the President of the Russian Federation was issued on 11 December 1993 "On the improvement of the system of State social allowances and compensatory payments to families with children and increasing their amounts." It provides as follows:

(a) From 1 January 1994 a single monthly allowance will be paid for each child instead of the previously paid social allowances and compensatory payments. It will be paid:

at the rate of 70 per cent of the minimum wage for children below the age of 6;

at the rate of 60 per cent of the minimum wage for children from 6 to 16 years of age who are attending primary schools and until they complete their schooling.

(b) A monthly allowance will be paid to working mothers for leave to care for children until they reach the age of 18 months, to mothers studying on leave from productive work or performing military service on contract, or to their surrogates, at the rate of 100 per cent of the minimum wage.

(c) The single monthly allowance for children established under paragraph (a) will be increased by 50 per cent for:

children of single mothers;

children whose parents evade the payment of support or in other cases provided for in the legislation of the Russian Federation where the payment of support is impossible;

children of servicemen called up for service.

242. At present a draft law of the Russian Federation on State allowances for children is being prepared which will establish the principle of the equality of rights of both parents to receive State support for child maintenance.

243. Women who are discharged in connection with the closing of an enterprise, organization or establishment during a period of pregnancy and leave to care for children below the age of 3 are to receive allowances on the same basis as employed women.

244. A Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of 3 March 1992 provides for the payment of a one-time allowance to refugees and forced resettlers.

245. A Decision of the President of the Russian Federation of 5 May 1882 "On measures for the social support of large families" provides that:

The parents of large families wishing to establish farms, small enterprises and other commercial undertakings will be granted the necessary assistance;

Parcels of land will be allotted for these purposes and advantages offered in the payment of land taxes and rents with a view to full or partial exemption from taxes in a specified period of time or the reduction of the tax rate;

The provision of free material assistance or interest-free loans in compensation of expenditures for the development of farming enterprises;

Full or partial exemption from the payment of registration duties for individuals engaged in entrepreneurial activities;

Assistance to large families in obtaining credits on advantageous terms, subsidies and interest-free loans for the acquisition of construction materials and the construction of dwellings.

246. A Resolution of the Council of Ministers-Government of the Russian Federation (10 December 1993) establishes Rules for the provision of grants to citizens of the Russian Federation needing to improve their living conditions by the construction or acquisition of dwellings. Under these Rules citizens needing to improve their living conditions and having a monthly income for individual family members below the level established by the body financing the grant (ministry or department of the Russian Federation, local body exercising authority, enterprise or organization) are entitled to receive non-reimbursable grants for the construction or acquisition of dwellings, including grants involving bank credits.

Article 14

247. The agrarian reform taking place in Russia since the beginning of the 1990s has as its goal the overall restructuring of the agrarian sector into a multiform agricultural economy utilizing private land holdings and other means of production and thus creating an efficient market economy.

248. 21.1 million women live in rural areas, constituting 53 per cent of the rural population. The age structure of the female rural population is distributed as follows: 28 per cent under the age of 19; 35 per cent between 19 and 49, and 37 per cent 49 and older.

249. Because of the high level of migration by women, particularly young women, men are predominant in the rural population. In the 20-29 year age group (in which the marriage and birth rate are highest) there are 942 women for every thousand men.

250. The number and size of families is declining. According to the 1989 census, 62 per cent of families consisted of 2-3 persons, 23 per cent of 4, 10 per cent of 5 and 5 per cent of 6 or more persons.

251. From 1992 on mortality rates exceeded births. The rate of infantile mortality in 1992 was 19.1 per thousand and in 1993 21.4 per thousand.

252. 3.1 million women are occupied in agricultural production, or about 40 per cent of the total occupied in that branch. As a rule, they work in vegetable

growing and livestock raising - branches which are labour intensive and unmechanized. One third of women do mechanized work, the others work by hand.

253. Among those working in substandard conditions half are women. Every third rural woman in the 46-55 age group suffers from illnesses resulting from heavy and harmful work.

254. The average rate of pay in agriculture is less than half that in industry and among women, most of whom work as unskilled labourers, it is below the average.

255. Women make up two-thirds of the more than 200,000 rural unemployed. Most of these are graduates of intermediate, vocational training or special secondary schools, two-thirds have secondary and 5 per cent higher educations.

256. Forty-three per cent of rural pre-school age children attend pre-school institutions. Outpatient clinic coverage is 29 per cent below the standard. In 1992 50 to 80 per cent of the rural housing stock had no running water, plumbing, heating or hot water.

257. The deteriorating social situation places a heavy burden on women in the first instance, and undermines their health. Thus, women spend 4 to 5 hours daily in household work. One-fifth of women during the winter and about half during the summer have no more than 4 to 5 hours of sleep a day.

258. In 1990-1993 a series of measures was taken to improve the social and economic situation of rural women. In some cases, women living in rural areas and occupied in agriculture were granted additional advantages as compared with women working in industrial establishments. A special category for "agricultural work" was set up in the list of manufactures, trades and work involving heavy or harmful work in which women could not be employed.

259. Beginning with January 1992, women below the age of 35 could not be employed in operations in the plant, livestock, poultry or fur-breeding industries involving the use of poisons, pesticides or disinfectants, and women could not be employed for a series of tasks enumerated in the list.

260. A number of regulations were adopted which were intended to solve problems relating to women's employment, their social defence and the protection of mothers and children.

261. From 1 January 1991, a work week of 36 hours, at the full rate of pay, was established for rural work women, except where shorter hours were provided for by other legislation.

262. The base length of annual leave was fixed at no less than 28 days.

263. Rural working women are granted one additional day off per month, on request, without reduction of pay (Part 2, article 163.1 of the LC RF).

264. Implementation of the "Safe Work" programme makes it possible to reduce the level of work accidents in Russia's agrarian establishments by 2 per cent and the rate of illness by 3 per cent annually.

265. The "Russian APK Cadres" programme provides for measures intended to attract women to new forms of rural economic activity.

Article 15

266. Under article 19 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation everyone is equal before the law and the courts.

267. Under article 27 everyone who is lawfully on the territory of the Russian Federation shall have the right to freedom of movement and to choose his or her place of stay or residence. Everyone is free to leave the territory of the Russian Federation. Citizens of the Russian Federation shall have the right to return freely to the Russian Federation.

268. Under article 13 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the RSFSR criminal proceedings may only be conducted in a court.

269. Under article 14 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the RSFSR criminal proceedings are to be conducted on the basis of the equality of citizens before the law and the court irrespective of sex.

270. Article 9 of the Civil Code of the RSFSR provides that the capacity to have rights and responsibilities (civil legal capacity) is accorded in equal measure to all citizens of Russia (irrespective of sex or other circumstances). The civil legal capacity of a citizen (whether man or woman) arises at the moment of his or her birth and ceases at the time of his or her death.

271. Under article 12 of the Civil Code of the RSFSR no one (whether man or woman) may be restricted in his or her legal capacity or responsibility except in the circumstances and manner provided by law.

272. Article 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure of the RSFSR provides that every person concerned (whether man or woman) may, in the manner laid down by law, appeal to a court for the defence of a violated or disputed right or of an interest protected by law.

273. Under article 5 of the Code of Civil Procedure of the RSFSR civil proceedings may be conducted only in a court and on the basis of the equality before the law and the court of every citizen irrespective of sex or other circumstances.

Article 16

274. The legislation of the Russian Federation on marriage and the family contains no provisions establishing discriminatory conditions for women in family relations.

275. Article 3 of the Marriage and Family Code (MFC) of the RSFSR establishes as a fundamental principle of family law "the equal rights of men and women in family relations."

276. Under article 4 of the MFC RSFSR every citizen has equal rights in family relations. No direct or indirect limitation of any kind of his or her rights establishing a direct or indirect advantage with regard to entry into marriage or family relations on the basis of origin, social position or property, racial or national affiliation, sex, education, language, religious attitude, nature and character of occupation, place of residence or other circumstances is permissible.

277. Article 5 of the same Code provides for the protection of the family by the State, and the care and encouragement of motherhood.

278. Under article 18 of the MFC RSFSR, on entering into marriage the spouses, by common consent, choose either of their surnames as their common surname or each of the spouses retains his and her previous surname.

279. Article 19 provides that the upbringing of children and other questions of family life are decided jointly by the spouses. Each of the spouses is free to choose an occupation, profession and place of residence.

280. Under article 20 of the MFC RSFSR the property belonging to each spouse at the time of marriage becomes their joint property. The spouses have equal rights to the control, use and disposition of this property. The spouses have equal rights to the property even if one of them was occupied with managing the household, caring for children or did not earn an independent income for other valid reasons.

281. Under article 21 of the MFC RSFSR, in the case of division of property which has become the joint property of spouses, they are entitled to equal shares. In individual cases the court may depart from this rule in the interests of a minor child or in deference to the interests of one of the spouses.

282. Under article 22 of the MFC RSFSR property belonging to the spouses at the time of marriage but also property received by them during the marriage as a gift or by inheritance becomes the property of each of them.

283. Forcing a woman to enter into a marriage or to continue cohabitation or preventing a woman from entering into a marriage or abducting her into marriage, where such actions are survivals of local customs, are subject to criminal sanctions (article 233 of the CC RSFSR).

284. Under article 25 of the MFC RSFSR spouses are obligated to give each other material support. In the case of refusal of such support an incapacitated spouse requiring material assistance or a wife during pregnancy and for eighteen months after the birth of a child have the right to receive support (alimony) from the other spouse, as ordered by a court, if the other spouse is able to provide it.

285. The right of a needy incapacitated spouse to receive support from the other spouse continues even after the dissolution of the marriage if he or she was incapacitated before the dissolution of the marriage or became so in the course of the year following the dissolution of the marriage. If the spouses were married for a long time, the court has the right to order the payment of alimony for the benefit of the divorced spouse and, where this spouse has reached pensionable age, not later than five years from the time of dissolution of the marriage. The wife retains the right to received support from her husband during pregnancy and for eighteen months after the birth of a child if the pregnancy began before the dissolution of the marriage.

286. The dissolution of a marriage between spouses with minor children is subject to review by the courts (articles 32 and 33 MFC RSFSR). Under article 31 of the MFC RSFSR a husband may not without his wife's consent institute divorce proceedings during the wife's pregnancy and for a period of one year after the birth of a child. Under articles 26 and 35 of the MFC RSFSR, on dissolution of the marriage the court may require a spouse to provide support of the other spouse. The property rights of the wife are protected by the court on dissolution of the marriage (article 36). If a child is born to parents who are no longer married, the wife has the right, under article 48, to apply to the court to establish the paternity of the child. Under articles 67 and 68 of the MfC RSFSR, the obligation of parents to support a minor child may be enforced by the court through an order of support.

287. Under article 73 of the MFC RSFSR parents paying for the support of a minor child may be required to share in additional costs arising from exceptional circumstances (serious illness, mutilation of the child, etc.). The extent of the sharing of expenses is decided by the court on the basis of the material and family circumstances of the parents.

288. One or both of the parents may be deprived of parental rights if it is established that they refuse to fulfil their obligations to bring up the child or abuse their parental rights and treat their children cruelly, have a harmful influence on their children because of amoral, anti-social behaviour or if the parents are chronic alcohol or drug abusers. Deprivation of parental rights can be carried out only in accordance with court procedures (article 59, MFC RSFSR).

289. Under the Basic legislation of the Russian Federation on the health care of citizens "every citizen has the right, after medical approval, to a free family planning consultation, in connection with the existence of a socially significant illness or an illness constituting a danger to others, on the medical and genetic aspects of family and marital relations and to medical and genetic and other consultations and tests in a State or municipal health care institution in order to prevent the possibility of inherited illness in his or her offspring."

290. Wardship may be established for children under the age of 15 of for persons recognized by a court to be legally incompetent as a result of mental illness or feeblemindedness. Guardianship may be established for minors 15 to 18 years of age. Guardianship may be established for minors if they are unable by reason of their health to exercise their rights and fulfil their responsibilities and for

persons whose legal competence is limited by a court by reason of their abuse of liquor or narcotic substances (article 121 MFC RSFSR).

291. Men and women have equal rights to be appointed warders or guardians. Persons under the age of 18, deprived of parental rights or recognized by a court to be legally incompetent or of limited legal competence may not be appointed warders or guardians (article 126 MFC RSFSR).

292. Article 15 of the MFC RSFSR established the conditions for marriage: it must be by the mutual consent of the persons entering into marriage and they must be of marriageable age. The age of marriage is established at 18. Local authorities may i n exceptional cases reduce the age of marriage, but by no more than two years.

293. Article 13 of the MFC RSFSR provides that marriage must take place in a State registry office. The registration of marriage is required both in the interests of the State and society and in order to protect the personal and property rights and interests of the spouses and children.

294. There is a problem at present with regard to the documentation of refugees living in Russia. The absence of rules permitting the civil registry offices to provide refugees and forced resettlers with the appropriate documents hinders full implementation of the defence of the rights of these citizens.

IV. LEGISLATION RELATING TO WOMEN REFERRED TO IN THE REPORT

1. Constitution of the Russian Federation (1993).

2. Criminal Code of the RSFSR (1960).

3. Code of Criminal Procedure of the RSFSR (1960).

4. Civil Code of the RSFSR (1964).

5. Code of Civil Procedure of the RSFSR (1964).

6. Marriage and Family Code of the RSFSR (1969).

7. Code of Administrative Offences of the RSFSR (1984).

8. Labour Code of the Russian Federation of 25 September 1992 (as amended by the Act of the Russian Federation "On the Introduction of Changes and Additions to the Labour Code of the RSFSR").

9. Act of the USSR "On Public Associations" (9 October 1990).

10. Act of the RSFSR "On Referendums" (16 October 1990).

11. Act of the RSFSR "On State Pensions in the RSFSR" (20 November 1990).

12. Act of the RSFSR "On Peasant (Farm) Holdings" (22 November 1990).

13. Act of the RSFSR "On Property in the RSFSR" (24 December 1990).

14. Act of the RSFSR "On the Election of the President of the RSFSR" (24 April 1991).

15. Act of the RSFSR "On Citizenship of the RSFSR" (28 November 1991).

16. Act of the RSFSR "On the Change of Name of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic" (25 December 1991).

17. Act of the Russian Federation "On Mass Information Media" (27 December 1991).

18. Act of the Russian Federation "On Occupations in the Russian Federation" (1991, as amended and added to by the Act of the Russian Federation of 15 July 1992).

19. Act of the Russian Federation "On Supplementary Measures for Maternal and Child Protection" (4 April 1992).

20. Act of the Russian Federation "On the Office of the Public Prosecutor of the Russian Federation" (17 January 1992).

21. Act of the Russian Federation "On Education" (10 July 1992).

22. Basic legislation of the Russian Federation on Culture (9 October 1992)

23. Act of the Russian Federation "On the Procedure for Complaint to the Courts concerning Illegal Acts of State Administrative Bodies and Officials Infringing the Rights of Citizens" (27 April 1993).

24. Basic legislation of the Russian Federation on Physical Culture and Sports (27 April 1993).

25. Act of the Russian Federation "On the Introduction of Amendments and Additions to the Act of RSFSR "On Citizenship of the RSFSR" (17 June 1993).

26. Basic legislation of the Russian Federation on the Health Care of Citizens (22 July 1993).

27. Act of the Russian Federation "On Forced Resettlers" (19 February 1993).

28. Act of the Russian Federation "On Refugees" (19 February 1993).

29. Decree of the President of the Russian Federation "On Additional Measures for the Legal and Economic Defence of the Press and State Book Publishing Enterprises" (20 February 1992).

30. Decree of the President of the Russian Federation "On Measures for the Social Support of Large Families" (5 May 1992).

31. Decree of the President of the Russian Federation "On Measures for the Social Support of Citizens Losing their Jobs and Pay (Income)" and Legally Registered as Unemployed" (2 July 1992).

32. Decrees of the President of the Russian Federation "On the Obligatory Redeployment of Individual Categories of Workers at the Closure of Enterprises, Establishments and Organizations: (5 June 1992 and 5 November 1992).

33. Decrees of the President of the Russian Federation "On the Scales of Social Support and Compensatory Payments to Families and Children and other Categories of Citizens" (5 February 1993 and 20 April 1993).

34. Decree of the President of the Russian Federation "On Priority Tasks of State Policy With Respect to Women" (4 March 1993).

35. Decree of the President of the Russian Federation "On Approval of the Revised Text of the Statute on the Election of Deputies to the State Duma in 1993 and Amendments and Additions to the Statute of the Federal Governing Bodies in the Transitional Period" (1 October 1993).

36. Decree of the President of the Russian Federation "On the Election of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation" (11 October 1993).

37. Decree of the President of the Russian Federation "On the Commission on Women, the Family and Demography of the President of the Russian Federation" (15 November 1993).

38. Decree of the President of the Russian Federation "On Improvement of the System of State Social Allowances and Compensatory Payments to Families With Children and Increasing their Scales" (10 December 1993).

39. Resolution of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR "On Urgent Measures to Improve the Situation of Women and For Maternal and Child Care and the Strengthening of the Family" (10 April 1990).

40. Resolution of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR "On Urgent Measures to Improve the Situation of Rural Women and Families and Rural Maternal and Child Care" (1 November 1990).

41. Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR "On Reforming Retail Prices and the Social Defence of the Population of the RSFSR" (20 March 1991).

42. Resolutior of the Council of Ministers-Government of the Russian Federation "On measures To Give Assistance to Refugees and Forced Resettlers" (3 March 1992).

43. Resolution of the Council of Ministers-Government of the Russian Federation "On New Standards Limiting the Permissible Weight of Heavy Loads Lifted and Moved by Women" (6 February 1993).

44. Resolution of the Council of Ministers-Government of the Russian Federation "On the Scales and Procedures for the Payment of Bread Allowances for Needy Categories of Citizens" (27 September 1993).

45. Regulations for the Granting to Citizens of the Russian Federation In Need of Improved Housing Conditions of Non-Reimbursable Subsidies for the Construction or Acquisition of Dwellings (issued as a Resolution of the Council of Ministers-Government of the Russian Federation on 10 December 1993).

46. Instruction of the Council of Ministers-Government of the Russian Federation on the Formation of a National Council For the Preparation and Holding of the Fourth World Conference on the Status of Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace (19 June 1993).

47. Order of the Ministry of Health of the RSFSR "On Measures to Implement the Act of the Russian Federation 'On the Medical Insurance of Citizens of the RSFSR'" (20 March 1992).

48. Resolution of the Ministry of Labour and Employment of the Russian Federation "Temporary Regulations for the Assignment by Quota of Posts in Enterprises, Establishments and Organizations to Persons in Need of Social Defence" (11 June 1992).

49. Statute for the Election of Deputies to the State Duma (1 October 1993).

ANNEXES

ANNEX I

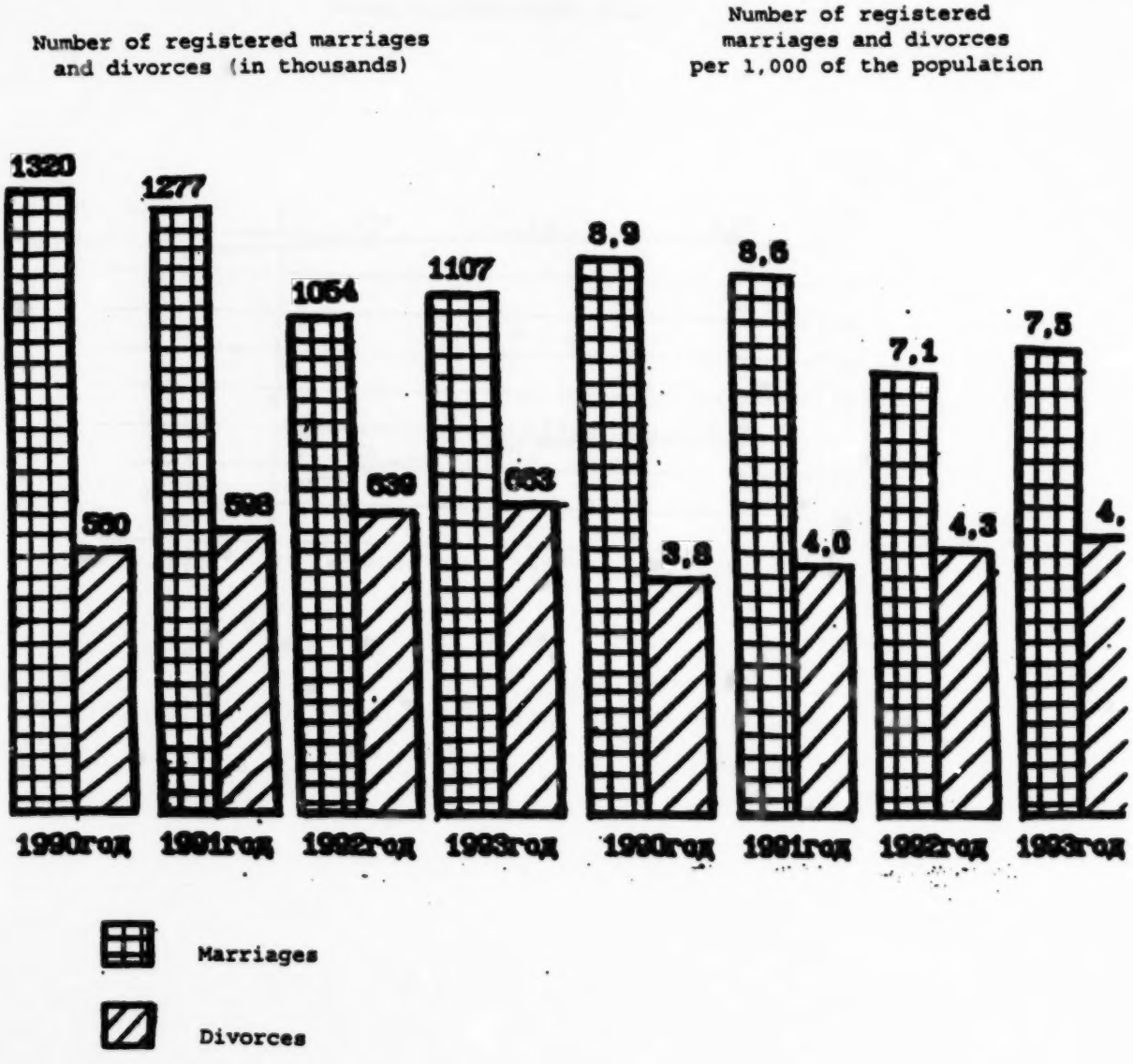
Numbers of men and of women

(in millions at the beginning of the year)

Men		Women
69,1	1990	78,6
69,4	1991	78,7
69,5	1992	78,8
69,6	1993	78,7
69,5	1994	78,5

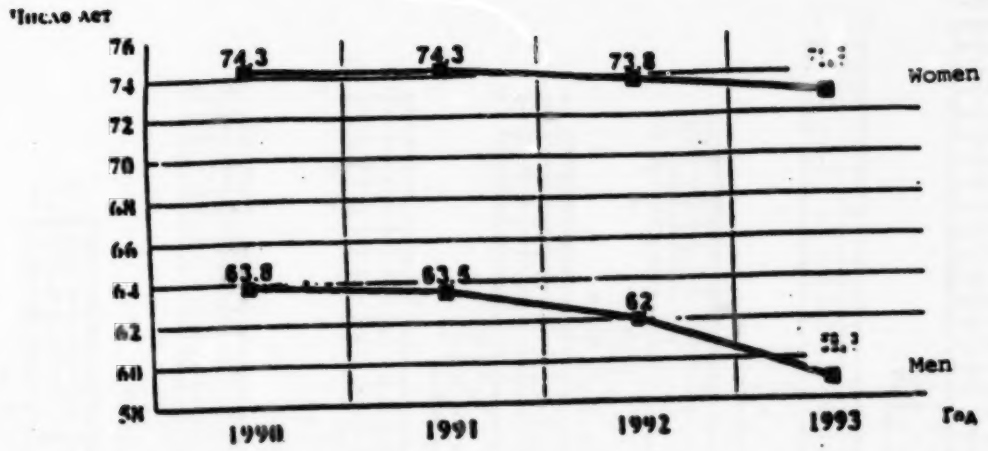
ANNEX II

Marriages, divorces and overall marriage and divorce rates



ANNEX III

Life expectancy at birth



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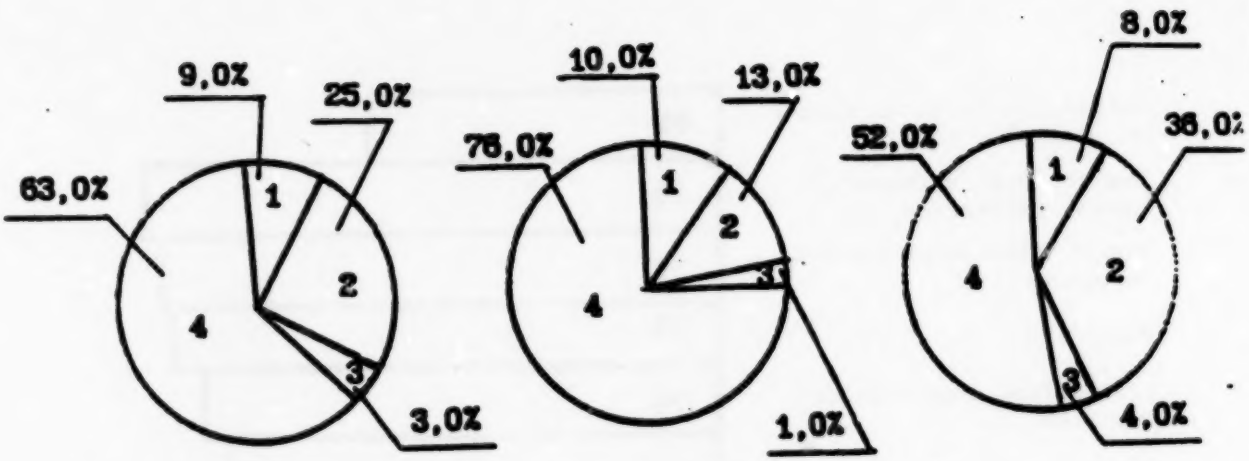
ANNEX IV

Distribution of total number of workers and employees by employment category

(Based on a single survey carried out by the State Statistical Commission of the Russian Federation in 1992)



Total Men Women

1. Managers
2. Specialists
3. Other staff
4. Workers

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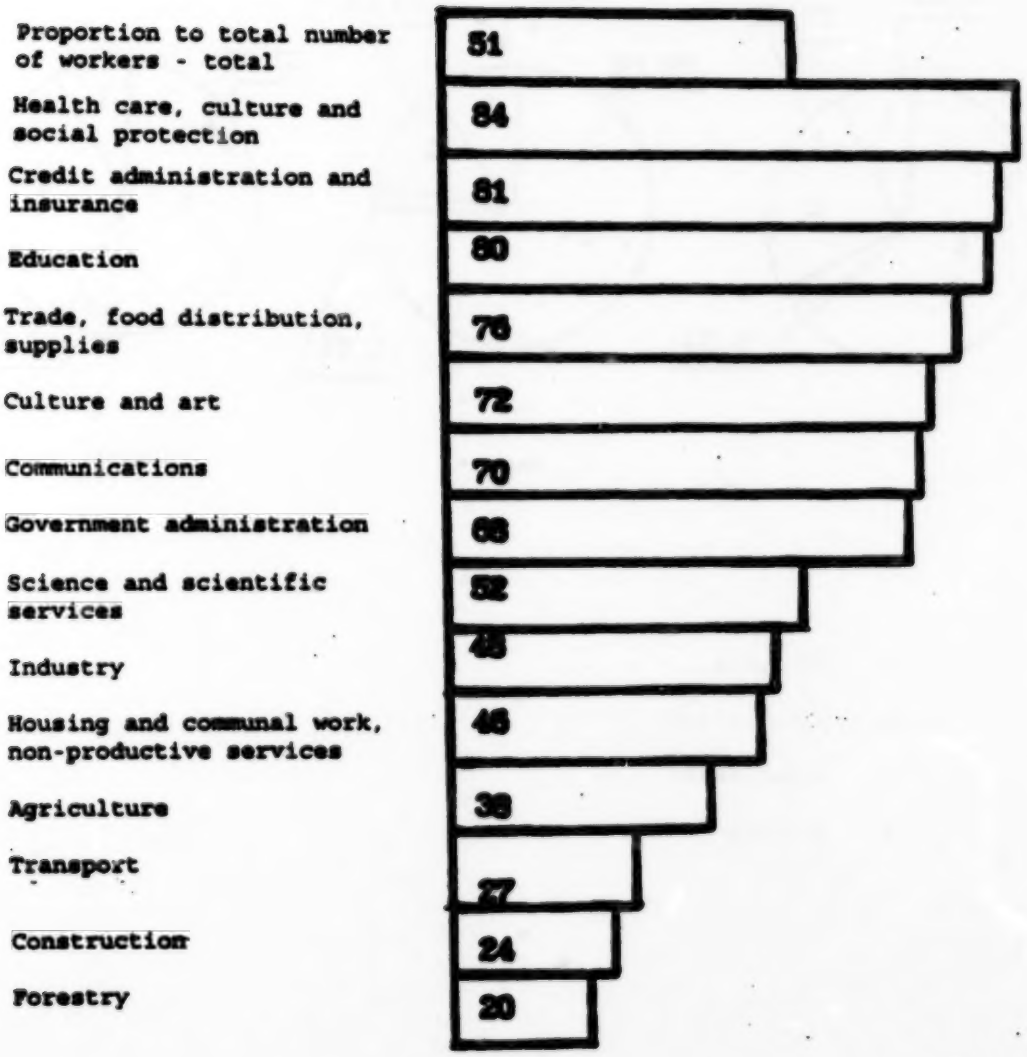
ANNEX V

Proportion of women to the total number of workers, by branch of the economy, in 1991

(In percentage)



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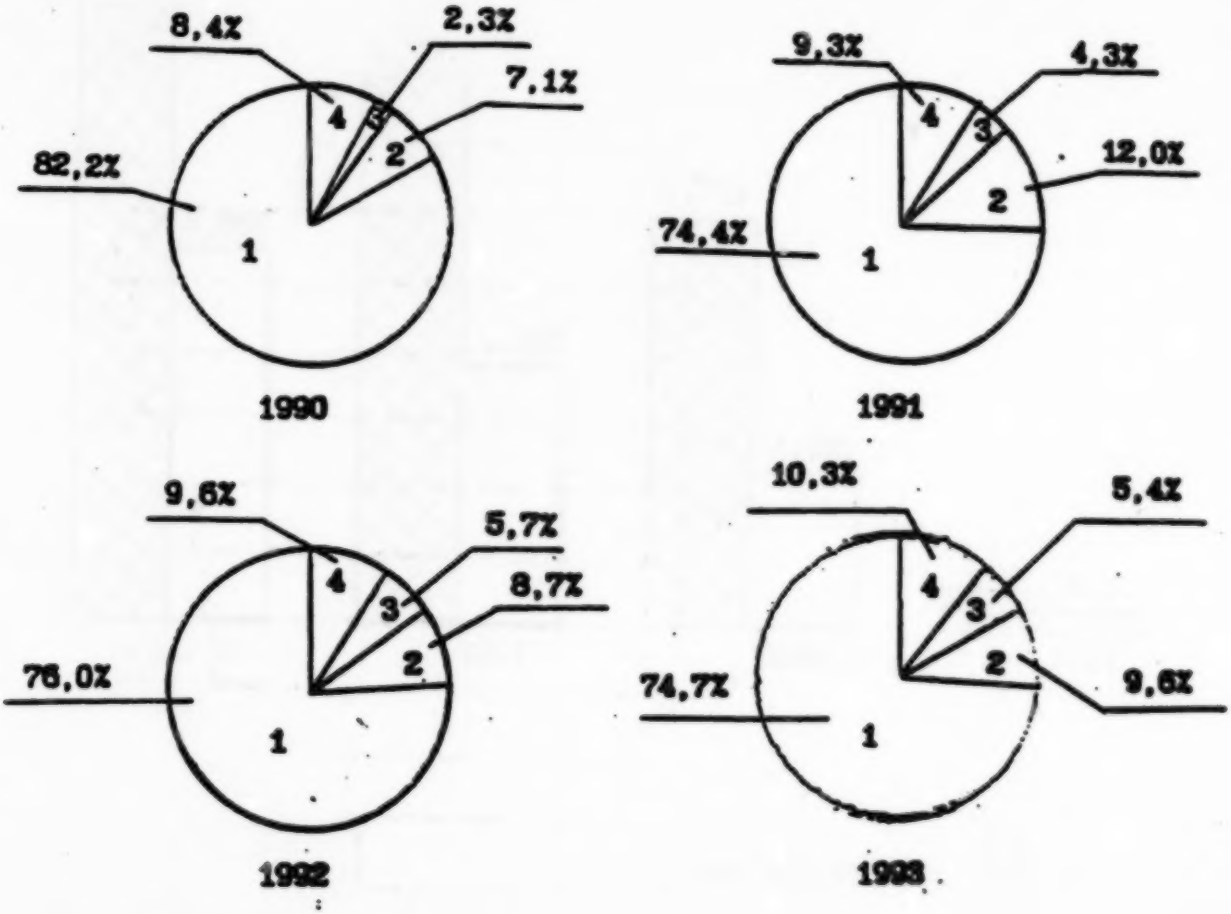
ANNEX VI

Structure of aggregate family income among Russian workers and employees

(Based on a sample survey of family budgets of workers and employees by the State Statistical Commission of the Russian Federation)



1. Wages
2. Pensions, allowances, stipends and other payments from public funds
3. Income from personal subsidiary work
4. Other income

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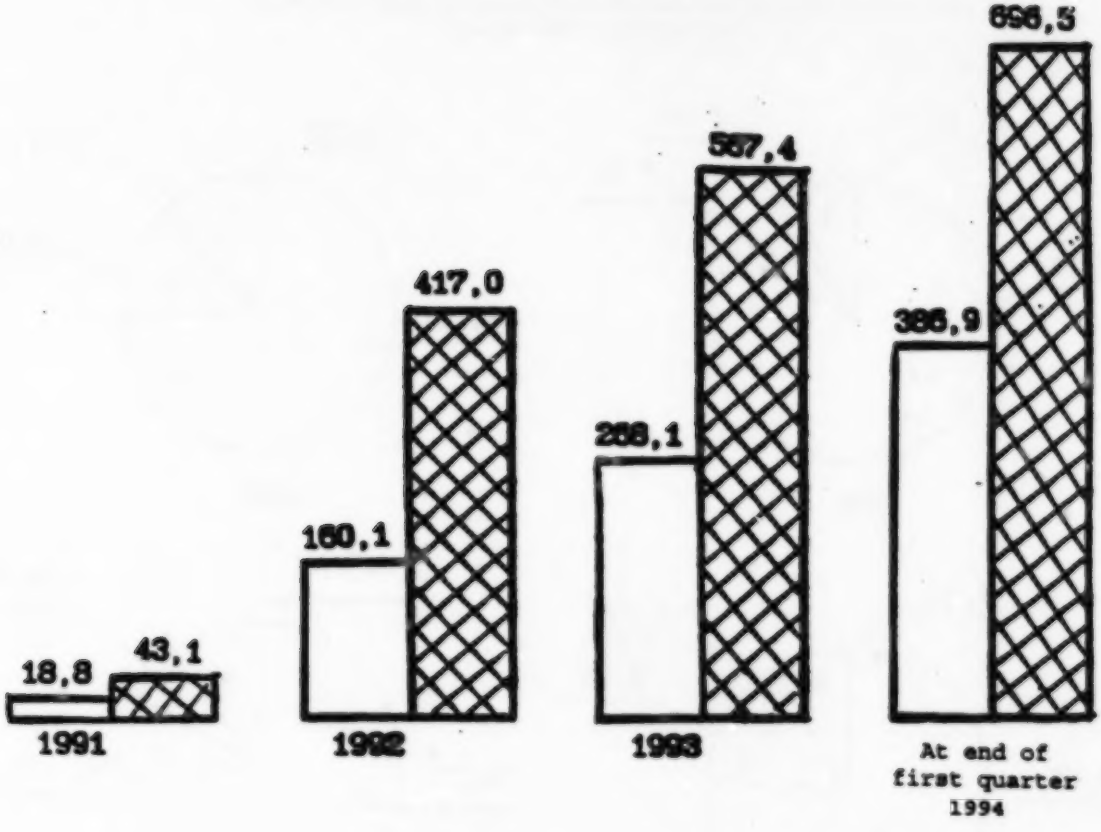
ANNEX VII

Number of unemployed registered with federal employment offices

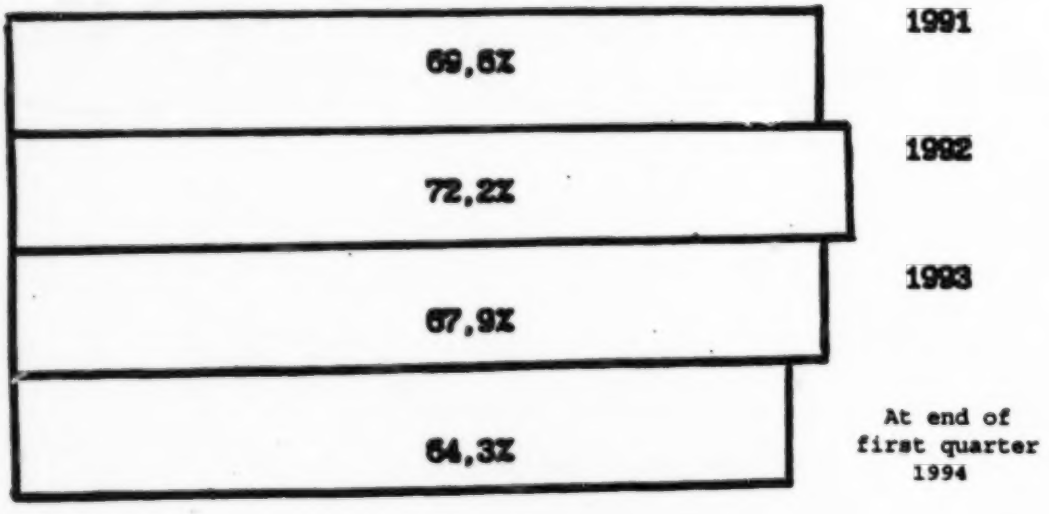
(In thousands, at end of year)



ANNEX VIII

Proportion of women among unemployed

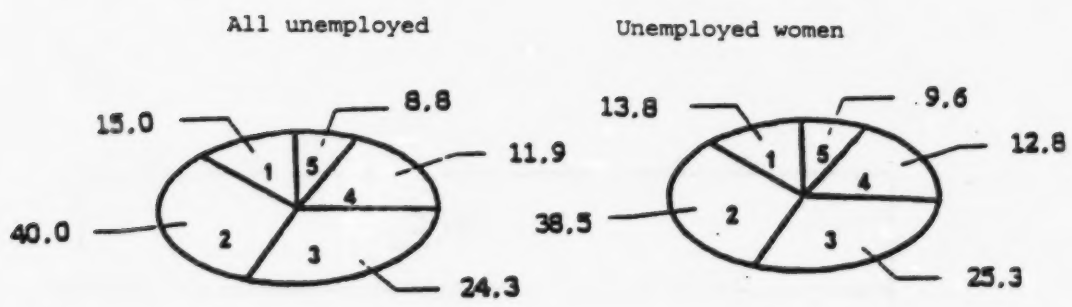
(At end of year in percentages)



ANNEX IX

Proportion of unemployed by length of period of unemployment

(At end of first quarter of 1994, in percentages)

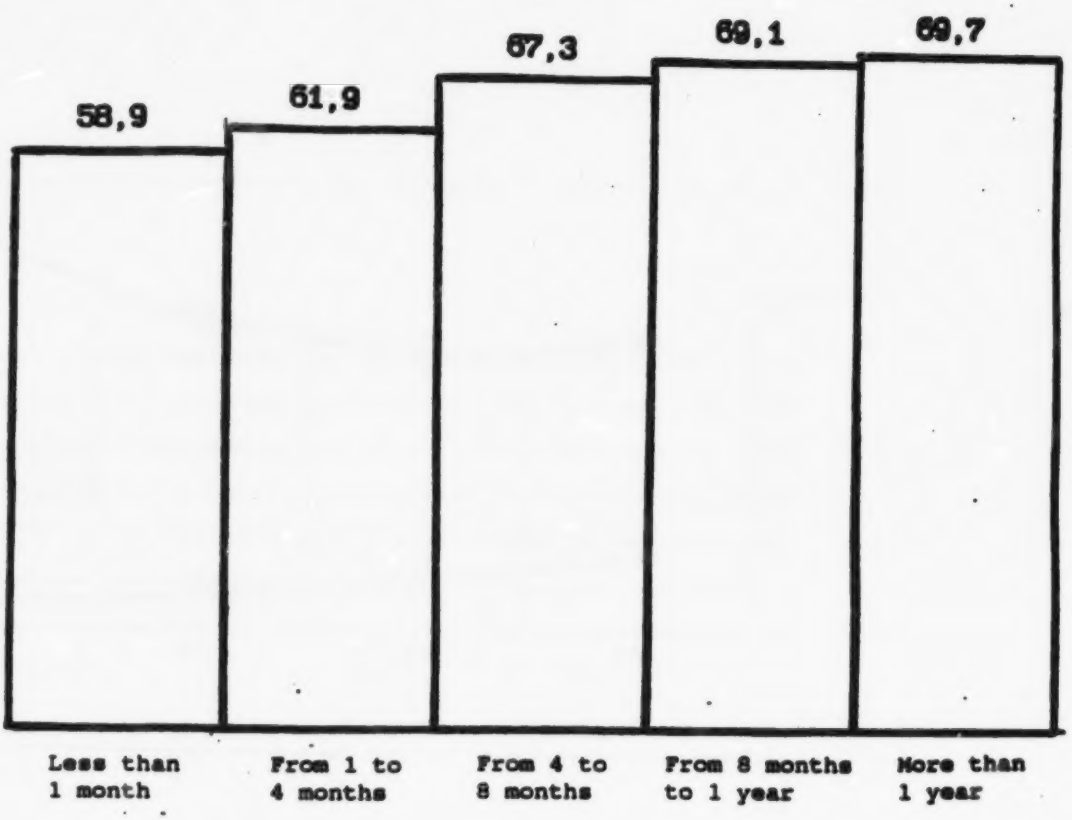


Length of period of unemployment

1. Less than 1 month
2. 1 to 4 months
3. 4 to 8 months
4. 8 to 12 months
5. More than 12 months

ANNEX X

Proportion of women unemployed by length of time unemployed



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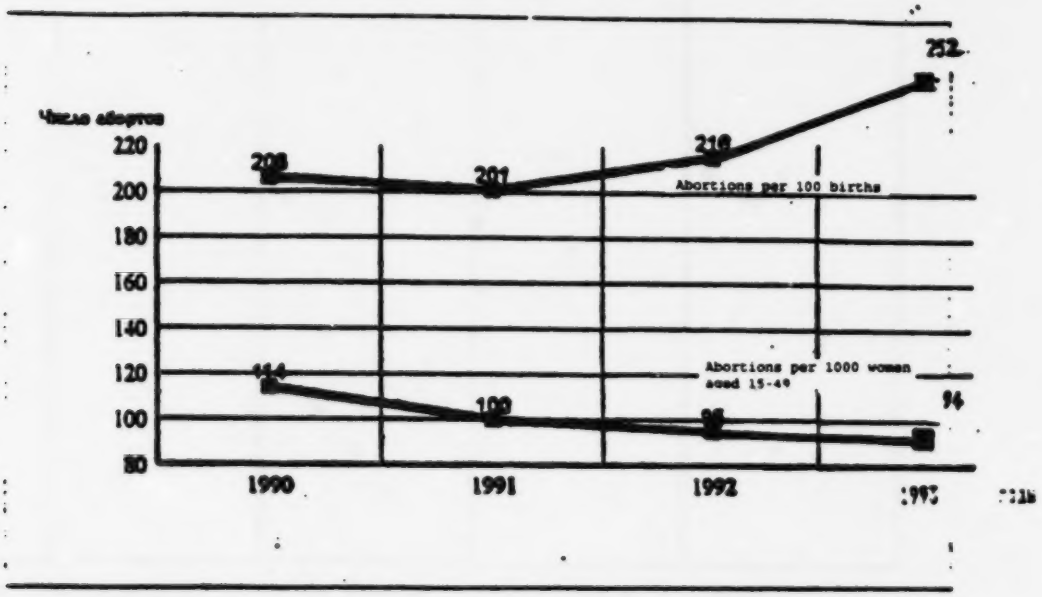
ANNEX XI

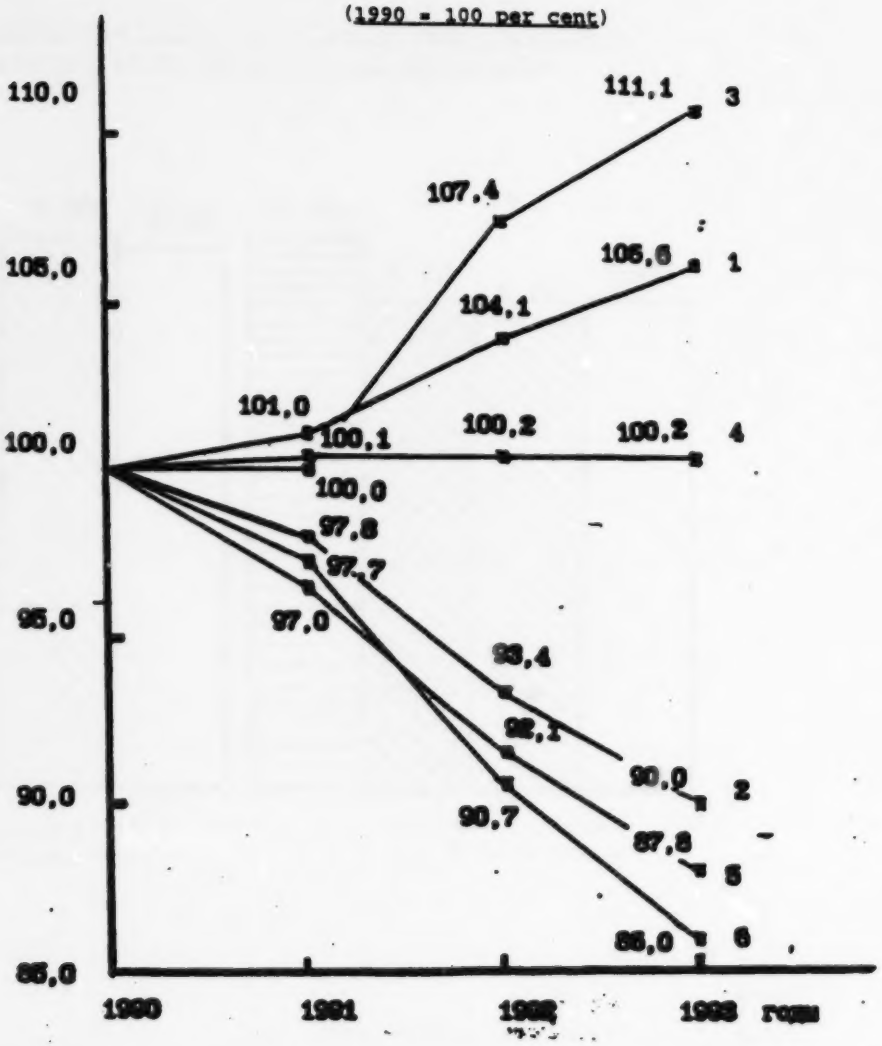
Number of abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-49 and per 100 births



ANNEX XII

Higher and intermediate specialized educational institutions

(1990 = 100 per cent)



1. Number of higher educational institutions

2. Number of students in higher educational institutions

3. Number of graduates of higher educational institutions per 1,000 inhabitants

4. Number of intermediate specialized educational institutions

5. Number of students in intermediate specialized educational institutions

6. Number of graduates of intermediate specialized educational institutions per 1,000 inhabitants

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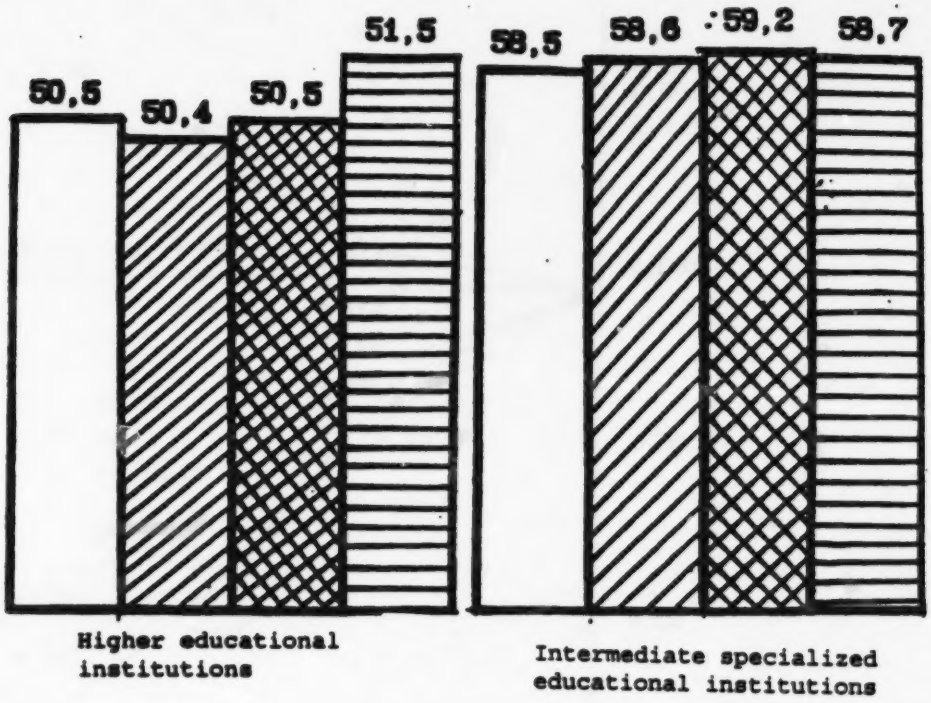
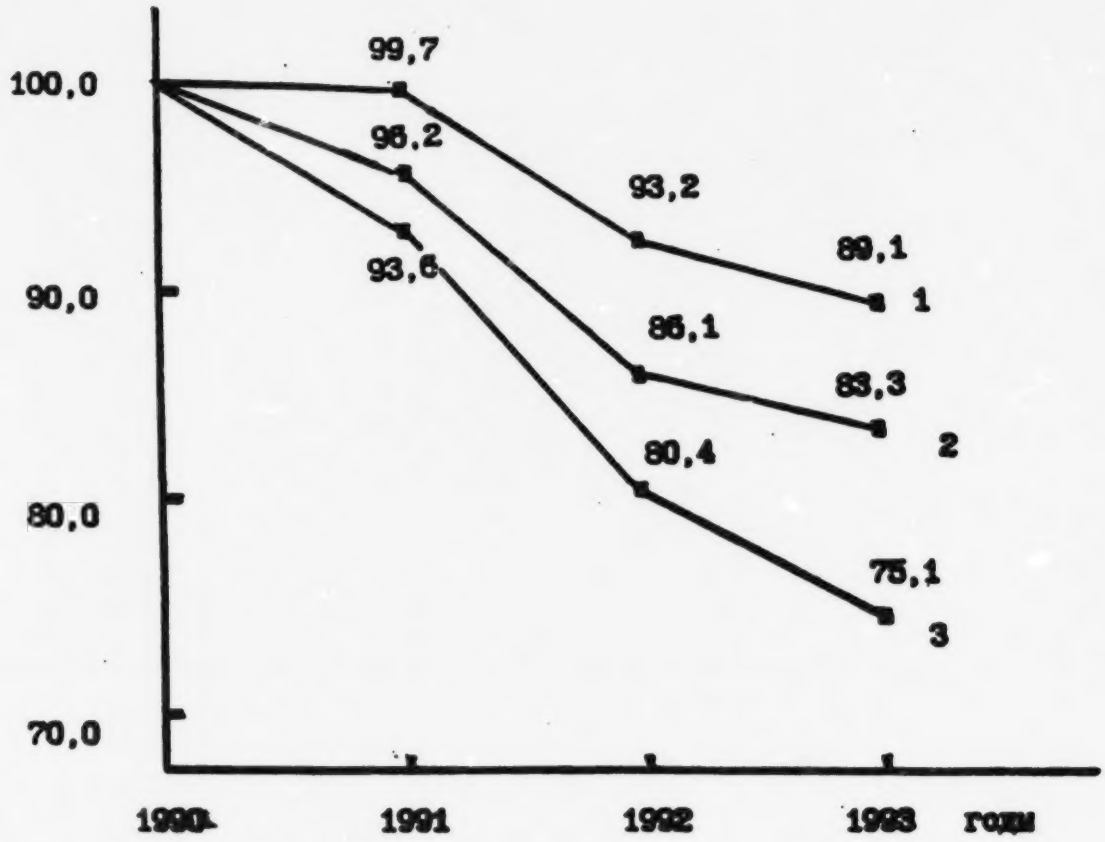
ANNEX XIII

Number of women studying at higher and intermediate educational institutions (in percentages)



ANNEX XIV

Pre-school children's institutions
(1990 = 100 per cent)



1. Number of pre-school children's institutions

2. Number of children in pre-school children's institutions

3. Number of children applying for 100 places in pre-school children's institutions

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